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FBIS-EAS-90-010 CONTENTS *16 January 1990*

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NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Reportage on Abe Delegation's Visit to Moscow ... 1
  Departs 13 Jan *[KYODO]* ... 1
  Official Praises Gorbachev *[KYODO]* ... 1
  Tokyo TV Conducts Interview ... 1
  More Reportage on Abe Activities *[cross-reference]* ... 2
USSR's Yeltsin Visits Japan To Conduct Talks ... 3
  Arrives in Tokyo *[KYODO]* ... 3
  Addresses Territories Issue *[Tokyo TV]* ... 3
  Holds News Conference *[KYODO]* ... 4
Reportage on Kaifu Visit to East Europe *[cross-reference]* ... 4
Businessman Proposes Mission to E. Europe *[KYODO]* ... 4
PRC State Councillor Zou Arrives in Osaka *[KYODO]* ... 5
Association To Investigate PRC Hijacker Case *[KYODO]* ... 5
Matsunaga Concludes Trade Talks in Washington ... 5
  Hears Requests *[KYODO]* ... 5
  Declines To Commit to Issues *[KYODO]* ... 6
  Returns Home *[KYODO]* ... 6
Late Budget Approval May Hinder Maneuvers *[KYODO]* ... 6
Bank Governor Pledges Action To Bolster Yen *[KYODO]* ... 7
Labor Group Vows To Oust LDP From Power *[KYODO]* ... 7
Korean Union Leader Seeks Government Arbitration *[KYODO]* ... 7
Construction Ministry To Ban Bid-Rigging *[KYODO]* ... 8

Mongolia

Democratic Union Meets, Reads Draft Program *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 8
Foreign Envoys Visit Batmonh, Sodnom on New Year *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 8
Batmonh Greets New Czechoslovak President *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 8
Peljee Receives Bulgarian Deputy Minister *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 8
MPRP Greets Afghanistan Party Anniversary *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 9
Union of Mongolian Teachers Established *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 9

North Korea

North Sends Letter to South's Political Leaders *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 9
Yang Hyong-sop Sends Letter to South Counterpart *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 10
No Agreement Reached in Fifth Sports Meeting *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 10
South's Efforts To Impede Sports Talks Hit *[KCNA]* ... 12
South Koreans Praise North Leaders at New Year *[KCNA]* ... 13
Dailies Comment on No's New Year Speech *[KCNA]* ... 13
No's Group Blames Economic Crisis on Workers *[KCNA]* ... 14
NODONG SINMUN on South's Labor Problems *[KCNA]* ... 15
Opinion Poll in South on Trade With North Cited *[KCNA]* ... 15
South's Purchase of British Jets Denounced *[KCNA]* ... 15
Chon's Assembly Testimony Not Accepted in South *[KCNA]* ... 15
Seoul Students Rally To Honor Pak Chong-chol *[KCNA]* ... 15
Daily Interviews Pak Chong-chol's Father *[KCNA]* ... 16

NODONG SINMUN Comments on Yim's Trial *[KCNA]* 16
Rev. Mun Ik-hwan Refuses Trial Due to Illness *[KCNA]* 16
Trial Procedure for Rev. Mun, Yu Denounced *[KCNA]* 17
Crime Rate in South Korea on Increase *[KCNA]* 17
Assault by U.S. Soldiers on South Family *[KCNA]* 17
MAC Letter on 'Team Spirit' Sent to NNSC *[Pyongyang Radio]* 17
    Further on Letter of Protest *[Pyongyang Radio]* 18
'Team Spirit' Troop Reduction 'Insignificant' *[KCNA]* 18
    North Cynical of Reduction *[KCNA]* 19
    Analyst on 'Team Spirit' Strength *[KCNA]* 19
Commentary Denounces 'Team Spirit' Exercise *[Pyongyang Radio]* 20
U.S., South Korea Stage Aerial Exercise *[KCNA]* 21
Overflight of U.S. 'Espionage' Plane Reported *[KCNA]* 22
Kim Il-song Sends Gift to Soviet Woman 10 Jan *[KCNA]* 22
South Magazine Cited on Anti-American Literature *[KCNA]* 22
Creation of Nuclear-Free Peace Zone Urged *[KCNA]* 22
New SFRY Ambassador Presents Credentials *[KCNA]* 23
Han Ui-pyo Appointed Ambassador to Poland *[KCNA]* 23
New Czeckoslovak Ambassador Arrives 15 Jan *[KCNA]* 23
Australian Socialist Supports Kim's Proposals *[KCNA]* 23
Chinese Daily Comments on 'Concrete Wall' *[KCNA]* 23
Article Urges Pulling Down of 'Concrete Wall' *[Pyongyang Radio]* 24
SKNDF To 'Bend All Efforts' for Proposal *[KCNA]* 25
KCNA Cites Chongnyon's New Year Resolution 25
Young Mindan Koreans in Japan Hold Meeting *[KCNA]* 26
North Journalist, Christian Leader Support Unity *[KCNA]* 26
National Agricultural Conference Concludes *[KCNA]* 26
    Products Sent to Countryside *[KCNA]* 27
    NODONG SINMUN on Conference *[KCNA]* 27
Workers Urged To Display Kangson Spirit *[Pyongyang Radio]* 27
Coal Miners Boost Production, Output in '90 *[KCNA]* 29
Steel Output Up, Toilers Work for 'Speed in 90s' *[KCNA]* 30
Brisk Progress Noted in Waterway Projects *[KCNA]* 30

South Korea

North Korean Letters Accepted at Panmunjom *[YONHAP]* 30
    Letters' Content Reported *[YONHAP]* 30
    Official Sees 'Nothing New' *[THE KOREA TIMES 14 Jan]* 31
Officials Dispatched To Receive Letter 16 Jan *[YONHAP]* 31
Government Provides Four-Step Disarmament Plan *[HANGYORE SINMUN 12 Jan]* 32
Prospects Dim on Agreement on Sports Talks *[Seoul Radio]* 32
    DPRK Rejects 'Written Guarantee' *[YONHAP]* 32
Resumption of Red Cross Talks in Question *[YONHAP]* 33
Unification Minister To Visit Europe, Thailand *[THE KOREA TIMES 11 Jan]* 33
Daily Criticizes U.S. Envoy's Visit to Kwangju *[HANGYORE SINMUN 11 Jan]* 34
U.S. Denies Ambassador-Level DPRK Contacts *[YONHAP]* 35
    Paper on U.S.-DPRK Contacts *[THE KOREA HERALD 14 Jan]* 35
Seoul Dailies View 'Team Spirit' Scale-Down *[HANGUK ILBO, etc.]* 35
Abolition of Shipbuilding Subsidies Viewed *[YONHAP]* 36
Hungarian Envoy Comments on South, North Korea *[THE KOREA HERALD 14 Jan]* 36
Mission To Discuss Ties With CSSR To Leave 14 Jan *[YONHAP]* 38
East Bloc Visitors Increase by 84% in 1989 *[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Jan]* 38
Japanese Envoy Urges Closer Seoul-Tokyo Ties *[THE KOREA HERALD 1 Jan]* 39
Vietnamese Economic Team Pays Week-Long Visit *[THE KOREA HERALD 6 Jan]* 40
Fisheries Talks With France Held 8-10 Jan *[YONHAP]* 40

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

- Thai Logging Permits Reduced To Save Forests *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 15 Jan]* 41
- More Fisheries Ventures With Thailand Urged *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 15 Jan]* 41
- Commander Warns About 'Destructive Elements' *[Rangoon Radio]* 42
- 'Dissidents' in Secret Contacts With Candidates *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 16 Jan]* 43
- Karen Mine Said To Hit Bus; Five Killed *[Rangoon Radio]* 43
- Troops Prepare To Attack Karen Stronghold *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 16 Jan]* 43
- Nine Political Parties Allocated Symbols 15 Jan *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
- Commission Chairman Explains Election Issues *[Rangoon Radio]* 44

Cambodia

- Phnom Penh Said Gaining From 'Shakeup' Reports *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 14 Jan]* 45
- Tran Quang Co on Parallel Rebel Administration *[AFP]* 45
  - Proposal Termed 'Premature' *[AFP]* 46
  - Ranariddh Rejects Hanoi Plan *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 16 Jan]* 46
- Hun Sen Praises Australian Plan for Peace *[AFP]* 46
- More Enemy Forces Killed in Battambang 4-10 Jan *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 47
- Son Sann Said To Agree to Australian Proposal *[Radio VOK]* 47
- Curfew Reportedly Imposed in 5th Region *[Radio VONADK]* 48
- NADK Command Praises Victories in Battambang *[Radio VONADK]* 48
- 6th Division Defense Line Reportedly Smashed *[Radio VONADK]* 49
- Resistance Shells Posts West of Battambang *[Radio VONADK]* 49
- Route 5 Attacked, Bridges Said Destroyed *[Radio VONADK]* 49
- Highway Said Cut Between Banteay Srei, Pradak *[Radio VONADK]* 50
- Khmer Rouge Report 'Panic' in Battambang Town *[Radio VONADK]* 50
- Khmer Rouge 'Advancing Toward' Angkor Temples *[AFP]* 50
- Hun Sun, Leaders Reportly in Ho Chi Minh City *[Radio VONADK]* 51
- Insiders Said Involved in Phnom Penh Explosions *[Radio VONADK]* 51
- Son Sann Proposes Two-Phase Plan for UN *[Bangkok THE NATION 16 Jan]* 52

Laos

- Reaction to SRV 'Reactionaries' Issue Reported 53
  - 'Criminal Offenders' Extradited *[KPL]* 53
  - PASASON Views 'Reactionaries' *[Vientiane Radio]* 53
- Medical Team Ends 1-Year Mission in Cambodia *[KPL]* 54
- Paper Hails DPRK's Reunification Initiative *[Vientiane Radio]* 54

Philippines

- Government Lifts Ban on Contacts With PRC *[PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 13 Jan]* 55
  - Aquino Makes Statement *[Quezon City Radio]* 55
- Allegations Made of U.S. Involvement in Coup 55
  - RAM Leader Makes Claims *[Manila Radio]* 55
  - Official Cites Arms Refusal *[Manila Radio]* 55
  - Aquino Gives Explanation *[Manila Radio]* 56
- Probe Into Reported Foreign Arms Use in Coup *[PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 12 Jan]* 56
- Suspected Coup Leader Arrested in Taguig Raid *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 15 Jan]* 56
  - Denies Criminal Charges *[Quezon City Radio]* 57
- Rebellion Charges Filed Against Coup Supporters *[MALAYA 11 Jan]* 57
- Sugar Planters, Traders Allegedly Supported Coup *[Quezon City Radio]* 58
- Further on Actions Against Cagayan Governor 58
  - Aquino Wants Restraining Order *[Quezon City Radio]* 58
  - Aquino on Subpoena *[Manila Radio]* 58
  - Governor Threatens War *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 15 Jan]* 59
  - Governor on Dismissal *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 16 Jan]* 60

Rebel Attacks Reported by Manila Media 61
  NPA Raids Quezon Hall *[Manila Radio]* 61
  Police Repel Attack on Hall *[MANILA BULLETIN 15 Jan]* 61
  Raid on Bohol Towns Reported *[Manila Radio]* 62
  Seven Killed in Sulu *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 15 Jan]* 62
Base Workers Receive New Benefits in Accord *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 12 Jan]* 62

Thailand

Alatas Urges New Talks on Australian Peace Plan *[BANGKOK POST 14 Jan]* 63
Sitthi Comments on Cambodia Issue, PRC Situation *[Bangkok VOFA]* 64
Chatchai Predicts New Cambodia Talks in Jakarta *[THE NATION 13 Jan]* 64
Chatchai, Ryzhkov To Sign Agreements Next Month *[THE NATION 12 Jan]* 65
Phalang Tham Party Sweeps Bangkok Elections *[THE NATION 15 Jan]* 65
Thai Villagers Ready To Flee Burmese Fighting *[BANGKOK POST 16 Jan]* 66
Army General Survives Helicopter Crash *[AFP]* 66

Vietnam

Pledge Renewed Not To Send Troops to Cambodia *[Bangkok THE NATION 13 Jan]* 66
Cambodia's Hun Sen Arrives Ho Chi Minh City *[VNA]* 67
  Interviewed by VNA 14 Jan *[VNA]* 67
  Meets Ali Alatas; Departs *[VNA]* 67
Nguyen Co Thach Favors UN Role in Cambodia *[AFP]* 67
Alatas Hopes for Cambodia Meeting 'Next Month' *[Melbourne International]* 68
Indonesia's Ali Alatas Concludes 2-Day Visit *[VNA]* 68
PRC Border Residents Hope for Friendship Noted *[Hanoi International]* 68
Italian Minister Interviewed on Cooperation *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
Chairman Do Muoi Addresses Judicial Conference *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
Council Communique on 10 Jan Session Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
Vo Chi Cong Addresses Control Meeting *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
Vo Chi Cong Greets Supreme Court Conference *[Hanoi Radio]* 73
TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Reviewed *[Hanoi Radio]* 74
Le Duc Anh's Military Thinking Book Introduced *[Hanoi Radio]* 75

Japan

Reportage on Abe Delegation's Visit to Moscow

Departs 13 Jan

OW1301052390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0453 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 13 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, heading a high-powered delegation from his ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], left for Moscow Saturday for talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Abe, former LDP secretary general, will meet with Gorbachev on Monday.

The 65-year-old Abe, widely regarded as a leading contender for the prime ministership, will be the first Western bloc politician to see Gorbachev since he canceled a scheduled meeting with British Labor Party chief Neil Kinnock earlier this month due to "busy domestic schedules."

Keizo Obuchi, who was the chief cabinet secretary under former Prime Minster Noboru Takeshita, former agriculture minister, Mutsuki Kato and five other LDP Diet members accompanied Abe. [sentence as received] Other delegates included Nagao Hyodo, deputy director at the Foreign Ministry's Secretariat, Kazuhiko Togo, chief of the ministry's Soviet Union division, and senior officials of the Ministries of Finance and International Trade and Industry.

The LDP delegation is scheduled to return home on January 17.

Official Praises Gorbachev

OW1301054990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0511 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Sendai, Jan. 13 KYODO—A senior Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officer, Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, on Saturday praised Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for inviting a high-powered LDP mission despite his tight domestic schedule. Mitsuzuka's political mentor, former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, left for Moscow later in the day as head of an eight-member LDP delegation.

Mitsuzuka, chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, said Gorbachev has canceled a scheduled meeting with British Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock but invited Abe. This means Japan has scored gains in terms of international status, he said in a speech at an LDP fund-raising party here. Mitsuzuka referred to the upcoming general election for the House of Representatives, expected Feburary 18, saying his party will fight for the sake of freedom, democracy, human rights and prosperity.

Tokyo TV Conducts Interview

OW1601030390 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1230 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Interview with Shintaro Abe, former Liberal Democratic Party secretary general and head of an LDP delegation now visiting Moscow, by NHK newscasters Jiro Hirano and Yoshiro Shimizu via satellite relay; Abe at the NHK Moscow studio and Hirano and Shimizu at the NHK studio in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Hirano] Mr Abe, I understand it was unusually cold there in Moscow today. I think it was tough for you. First of all, do we understand that Chairman Gorbachev's visit to Japan next year has become almost definite now, including its timing?

[Abe] Well, I asked Mr Gorbachev to come to Japan next year if at all possible. I said that Japan is most beautiful when the cherry blossoms bloom. Mr Gorbachev told me that he had read a book entitled A Cherry Blossom [Ichirin No Sakura] and said that he would like to meet your expectations as long as there are no hindrances. I got the impression that he was definitely set to visit Japan next year.

[Shimizu] I want to ask you about the northern territories issue, which is the focal point. What did you say about this issue, and what did Mr Gorbachev reply? Will you please explain as much as you can?

[Abe] As a matter of fact, that issue was discussed at a plenary meeting, including the parliamentarians's group. I also addressed it in my separate talks with Chairman Gorbachev. In concrete terms, I said that, in the final analysis, our two countries have no other choice but to resolve the difficult issue pending between them by pooling their wisdom. Currently, our two countries are sitting at the table and debating the issue, I said. I think we have no other way but to find a wise solution. At the same time, I said that we want to develop our bilateral relations by cooperating on other issues as well. I then asked: Mr Gorbachev, what do you think? What is your opinion? [Abe takes a close look at something he has in front of him] In reply, Chairman Gorbachev expressly told me he has a favorable opinion. He told me: I think that your remarks will be affirmatively received by our side. It would be impossible for us a decision on our friends a decision which we think they need. It is your sovereign right [shuken] and intrinsic right [koyu no kenri]. We are neighbors and big powers [taikoku], but our relations are not normal. We shall think carefully about the proposal you made and deal with it as we think fit. That is what he said.

Moreover, at the plenary meeting, the Soviets made remarks to the effect that they want to find a solution to this difficult question pending between the two countries in a natural way [shizen no nagare no nakade]. Mr Yakovlev also said that this is the only way. Judging from these statements, I understand that, unlike heretofore, there was a significanct advance in their perception of resolving the so-called territorial issue.

[Hirano] Mr Abe, I sense something new about the phrase sovereign rights [shuken] used by Chairman Gorbachev. I do not know if he said any more than that, but Mr Gorbachev indicated his understanding by using the phrase sovereign rights. I sense something new in this. What is your opinion?

You are right. This is the third time I have talked with General Secretary Gorbachev. We have talked about the territorial issue and other questions in the past, and I have heard the views of other people. Frankly, in this latest meeting, I could sense a very strong desire, different from the past, to improve bilateral relations, and for that reason, to solve the difficult problem of the territorial issue.

[Shimizu] In that case, is it your feeling, Mr Abe, that, by the time Mr Gorbachev comes for a visit next year when the cherry blossoms bloom, there will be certain progress on the territorial issue from the Soviet side?

[Abe] I think the more concrete things will come later. However, both sides agreed that a channel for opening a new phase in bilateral relations has emerged, [changes mind] I mean, should be put forward. From this, we can fully anticipate progress on this difficult problem of the territorial issue during Gorbachev's visit to Japan next year. I also think that we must work to achieve such events.

[Hirano] Talking about Mr Gorbachev, his head is now aching with the handling of domestic issues. Your meeting was held under such a situation. Did you notice any signs of difficulties in the tones of his words?

[Abe] Yes. He said that he is now in great difficulty. He also said that a meeting was waiting on him. We had a detailed briefing from Politburo member Yakovlev on the domestic problems, such as the Lithuanian problem, the Azerbaijan problem, and the economic issues.

[Hirano] With regard to that, what do you think...

[Abe, interrupting] However, on the whole, although they are faced with the greatest difficulties, I could feel great confidence on the part of the two leaders to settle the problems. General Secretary Gorbachev was very cheerful and healthy. I sensed that he was full of confidence.

[Shimizu] The way you see it, regarding the stability of the Gorbachev regime, which is a subject of great interest the world over, did you get the impression that he will be all right?

[Abe] Well, I could feel his confidence to come through this very difficult situation.

[Shimizu] When you were asked to appear in this program before you left for the visit, you said that, independent from the territorial issues, we would support perestroyka, and that you were considering what we could do to help. Did you make any proposals to that effect today?

[Abe] Yes. I discussed it with the parliamentarian's group in my delegation, and we agreed that we must support the perestroyka being implemented by General Secretary Gorbachev and do whatever we can to help. We presented an 8-point proposal on economic, cultural, and personnel exchanges, including youth exchange. It was a very bold proposal. General Secretary Gorbachev and Politburo member Yakovlev highly commended the proposal.

[Hirano] Mr Abe, when you were interviewed on this program earlier, you talked about how the Soviet new thinking diplomacy would affect Asia.

[Abe] What?

[Hirano] New thinking diplomacy. Atarashii kangaekata [new thinking]. You talked about its effects on Asia. During the present meeting, did you touch on issues like disarmament in the Far East?

[Abe] Yes. On this question, we had a very detailed briefing by General Secretary Gorbachev on East-West relations in Europe. He said that there has been steady progress. In response, I said that East-West relations have to be viewed from a global perspective. Together with Europe, peace and stability in Asia are also important. In that sense, the resolution of numerous issues, including the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula, the solution of the Cambodia problem, and the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations—not to mention the all important improvement of relations between Japan and the USSR—is important for Asia. In that area, both the USSR and Japan have their responsibilities. We hope that the Soviet Union will fulfill its responsibilities. I made a statement to that effect and he agreed. General Secretary Gorbachev said that we should do our best for peace and stability in the world. On his assessment of Japan—what I feel was indeed new—he clearly stated that unlike in the prewar period, Japan has succeeded in the postwar period as a nonmilitary country. My impression is that is what is really new.

[Hirano] Thank you.

[Shimizu] Thank you very much.

More Reportage on Abe Activities

For reportage on the visit of former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, including accounts of his talk with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, see the Northeast Asia section of the 16 January and subsequent issues of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

USSR's Yeltsin Visits Japan To Conduct Talks

Arrives in Tokyo

OW1401054590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Boris Yeltsin, the radical Soviet reform leader, arrived in Tokyo Sunday for a 10-day speaking tour in Japan. Yeltsin, former Moscow party chief and now a member of the Supreme Soviet, will make a speaking tour in Sapporo, Osaka and Hiroshima. The main theme of the Yeltsin lectures is expected to focus on the Soviet "perestroyka" reform policy and Soviet-Japanese ties, organizers of the trip said. Organizers said they are also arranging meetings with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama during his stay in Japan. Yeltsin has set up meetings with Japanese opposition and business leaders.

The main sponsors of the Yeltsin trip include Tokyo Broadcasting System, the national daily MAINICHI SHIMBUN, and the Foreign Ministry-affiliated Japan Society for Promotion of Japanese Diplomacy.

Yeltsin, leader of the radical reform group within the Supreme Soviet, made a highly publicized visit to the United States last September and met with President George Bush and other U.S. Administration and congressional leaders.

Addresses Territories Issue

OW1501151790 Tokyo TBS Television Network in Japanese 0930 GMT 15 Jan 90

[News report program containing an interview with Boris Yeltsin, a deputy to the Supreme Soviet and a leader of the Soviet reformist group, who is visiting Japan, and comments by reporter Tosho Koike from Moscow; the interview was conducted by TBS newscasters Kazuo Hiromoto and Takae Migumo at the TBS studio in Tokyo on 15 January; Yeltsin speaks in Russian, with Japanese translation given either in subtitles or by the announcer; Yeltsin's remarks translated from Japanese—portions of Yeltsin's and reporter Koike's remarks recorded]

[Text] [Hiromoto] Mr Boris Yeltsin, leader of the Soviet radical reformist group, who is visiting Japan, made specific proposals on the northern territories question in an interview with TBS today.

In the interview, Mr Yeltsin said that the Soviet Union must alter its past position on the northern territories and admit that the territorial problem indeed exists between Japan and the Soviet Union. Mr Yeltsin, suggesting a series of steps for resolving the issue, proposed that the four northern islands be made free economic zones. Mr Yeltsin has been visiting Japan since yesterday to exchange views with Japanese representatives of various circles on pending Japan-USSR issues, including that of the northern territories, and on the future course of Japanese-Soviet relations. Today, after touring Tokyo city, he came to TBS and granted us an interview. On the northern territories question—the question of most concern to us—he expressed the view that the Soviet Union must first alter its attitude of the past that there is no territories question between Japan and the Soviet Union. He said the following:

[Yeltsin] [Video shows Yeltsin seated in studio, speaking] The Soviet Union must first admit that this issue does exist. Only then can we foster a climate favorable for resolving this issue.

[Hiromoto] Then Mr Yeltsin made a new proposal concerning the four northern islands.

[Yeltsin] The second step would be to make all four islands free trade zones. A free trade zone means a place where both Japanese and Soviet enterprises can freely engage in business activities and exchange.

[Hiromoto] We can say that Mr Yeltsin's remarks on the northern territories fall far short of Japan's demand that the territories be returned totally and immediately. The Foreign Ministry, which was asked to comment on his remarks, said that they represent his personal views and that there is nothing to comment about. Saying there is nothing to be happy or sad about, the ministry maintained its cautious stand. However, the fact that Mr Yeltsin clearly acknowledged the problem as an avoidable major issue is important. His comments, coming from an influential deputy to the Supreme Soviet, can be said to be significant because concrete steps were mentioned.

[Migumo] Mr Yeltsin was asked about the mounting ethnic unrest which could undermine Gorbachev's position in governing the Soviet Union. A report has arrived from our man in Moscow, Tosho Koike, on the nationalist movement in Azerbaijan, which claimed dozens of lives in recent riots. Please listen to his report first.

[Koike] [Video shows Koike initially standing in front of an unidentified building, in the snow, and then cuts to scenes of unrest, apparently primarily in Azerbaijan] The trouble in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku was triggered by the shooting to death of an Azerbaijani by a Armenian during the day. When the news reached 500,000 other Azerbaijanis who were staging a rally in Baku, it started a chain of ethnic violence during the night. Parts of Baku are reported to be in total chaos, as mobs went on a rampage. The situation in Azerbaijan has taken a serious turn. On 14 January, Central Committee candidate member Mrimakov was sent into the republic, and the (Zherzinskiy) Division, a special security force under the Home Affairs Ministry, has been dispatched to reinforce security. President Mikhail Gorbachev visited the Baltic Republic of Lithuania just recently to try and dissuade Lithuanian nationalists from seceding from the Soviet Union. And now Gorbachev is pinched from both sides as unrest spreads in the southern Caucasian republics, including Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia.

[Yeltsin] The progress of perestroyka has awakened the Soviet people to political and ethnic awareness, but it has also brought about some negative aspects. The ethnic problem of today would not have occurred if the political, economic, and social autonomy of the republics had been respected sooner.

[Hiromoto] In addition to such ethnic problems, there is mounting discontent within the Soviet Union over the economic reform deadlock. TBS asked Mr Yeltsin's opinion on whether General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev could retain power and continue to exert strong leadership.

[Yeltsin] Gorbachv had the people's support only for the first 2 years; now, he has lost his freshnesss and personal appeal. The Soviet economy, the Communist Party, and society are all teetering at the edge of a cliff. The situation is such that the next few months will determine the fate of the country. However, I can rule out the possibility of Gorbachev being overthrown by a military or a KGB coup. Even the conservatives see merit in letting Gorbachev hold on to power, but Gorbachev has to watch for big movements from below. I am talking about miners strikes and ethnic clashes, and these movements have already started.

Holds News Conference

OW1601112790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Soviet reform advocate Boris Yeltsin on Tuesday advanced a step-by-step process to resolve the northern territories issue but left the option of returning the islands to Japan to a future generation. Yeltsin proposed joint business ventures and demilitarization of the four disputed northern islands over the next two decades to pave the way for their possible return. Yeltsin, a leading advocate of reform in the Supreme Soviet Parliament, set forth his ideas in a press conference at the Japan National Press Club on the second day of a 10-day visit to Japan.

While stressing that the territorial question "could not be solved in one fell sweep," he also rejected a "hard-headed" stance as unprofitable. As a first step, Yeltsin urged a public statement by the Soviet Union admitting that a territorial dispute between the two nations exists. Such a statement should come within the year, or on the occasion of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan in 1991. The islands would then be gradually opened to Japanese investment in the following three to four years with demilitarization of the islands to occur within another five to seven years. Such measures, Yeltsin predicted, would lay the groundwork for a clear statement from Japan that it would be ready to sign a peace treaty upon the return of the islands sometime around 2010. A new generation of leaders in both countries would then be able to explore different options for the islands in a changed world political climate.

While leaving a final decision on the fate of the territiories to future leaders, Yeltsin surmised that future politicians would likely discuss options including joint control and outright return in reaching a final solution to the dispute. Kremlin leaders are thought to believe a return of the islands in the near future would set a precedent and add to separatist pressures from the Soviet Union's component republics.

Yeltsin said he could not say who would lead the Supreme Soviet in its fall session and criticized Gorbachev for not granting increased the autonomy to the republics earlier. Commenting on a recent trip by the Soviet leader to the Baltic Republic of Latvia, Yeltsin said the split of the Latvian Communist Party from the national body should have been recognized in order to defuse a divisive conflict. The reformist said the "tragedy of the Baltics" was that they were leading the perestroyka or restructuring process but that the nation was not adequately prepared to deal with them. Patience, perseverance and increased autonomy could solve the disputes in the Baltics and other republics, he said.

Pressures for "bottom-up" democratization from the people, he said, could either progress in a civilized manner similar to most of Eastern Europe or devolve into civil war. To handle such demands, Yeltsin called for full-scale, radical reform measures, criticizing the present course as makeshift and reactive. Soviet conservatives have hit Gorbachev from the other side, calling for a retrenchment of his suggested reforms, which they say threaten to lead the country into chaos.

Yeltsin advanced several proposals to increase political and economic freedoms which he said would make the Soviet Union into a federation of cooperating republics. Moscow's tight central control of activities in the republics, he said, was an affront to their pride.

Yeltsin is to travel on Wednesday to Sapporo on the northern island of Hokkaido which borders the disputed territories. Meetings with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Japanese opposition and business leaders are also included in his schedule.

Reportage on Kaifu Visit to East Europe

For Japanese and East European reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to East Europe, please see the 16 January and subsequent issues of the East Europe DAILY REPORT.

Businessman Proposes Mission to E. Europe

OW1001085690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 10 KYODO—Rokuro Ishikawa, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Wednesday proposed to send to Eastern Europe, possibly in April, a mission made up of representatives of medium-sized Japanese firms.

Ishikawa, chairman of Kajima Corp., thus differed from Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), who earlier proposed sending a high-caliber private economic mission to Eastern Europe around April or May when political climate there is expected to stabilize following general elections. Ishikawa told a news conference that the East European nations, whose economies are stagnant, have requested that Japan send a mission comprising leaders of medium-sized firms.

PRC State Councillor Zou Arrives in Osaka

OW1601063390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0557 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Osaka, Jan. 16 KYODO—China's State Councillor and State Planning Minister Zou Jiahua arrived at Osaka Airport Tuesday for a 10-day visit to Japan at the head of a 14-member Chinese Government delegation. Zou is the first senior Chinese official to visit Japan since the June 4 military crackdown on the prodemocracy movement in China.

While in Japan, Zou will meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

Association To Investigate PRC Hijacker Case

OW1201155390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1337 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 12 KYODO—The Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) on Friday established a special panel to look into an alleged Chinese skyjacker's request for political asylum. The move was in accordance with an appeal against deportation to China made by Zhang Zhenhai, 36, who is being held here in connection with the December 16 hijacking of an Air China Boeing 747. Japanese authorities plan to extradite him to Beijing as requested by the Chinese Government following his treatment at a hospital. The Chinese side says Zhang was charged with embezzlement and free on bail when he committed the hijacking.

Zhang suffered serious injury when he was pushed out of the plane by a crew member after he allegedly hijacked the plane and forced it to land at Fukuoka airport. He was moved to Tokyo Thursday.

On January 5, he appealed to the JFBA's Human Rights Committee, claiming he had participated in the June 4 pro-democracy demonstrations at Tiananmen Square in Beijing and faced prosecution should he be returned home. He said he resorted to the hijacking act in an effort to escape persecution, seeking political asylum in either Taiwan or the United States.

On Friday, the JFBA's Human Rights Committee decided to set up a five-member special subcommittee to determine whether the association can help Zhang.

Matsunaga Concludes Trade Talks in Washington

Hears Requests

OW1201045590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0301 GMT 12 Jan 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, Jan. 11 KYODO—U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills urged Japan to settle a dispute over its import barriers on satellites, supercomputers and forest products by the end of March when she met Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Hikaru Matsunaga in Washington on Thursday. The U.S. last year designated Japan under the Super 301 provision an "unfair trader" in its import policy on the three items, and Hills is required by law to present a report by March 31 on progress in the negotiations. She also told Matsunaga that the U.S. expects Japan to speed up the processing of patent applications by foreign individuals and companies, a Japanese official said.

Matsunaga heard these and other requests to Japan to open up its markets from Hills after Secretary of State James Baker told him in a separate meeting that the trade imbalance between the two nations has to be corrected. The Japanese official said Matsunaga promised Baker that Japan will proceed with the bilateral Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) and other trade talks with the U.S. with the help of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party after a general election expected in February. The SII is aimed at removing barriers to trade and investment in the two countries.

Like President George Bush, who the MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry] minister met Thursday morning, both Baker and Hills welcomed a new Japanese import promotion program as a step in the right direction, Japanese officials said. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher also praised the MITI-sponsored import promotion plan in an hour-long meeting with Matsunaga.

Referring to Japan's satellite program, Hills said the U.S. considers government involvement in commercialization as problematic, according to a MITI official. The U.S. trade ambassador also questioned the rationale of the Japanese Government's supercomputer procurement policy, telling Matsunaga the policy does not fully reflect widely held "performance standards" and favors domestic products over foreign products. Hills urged Japan to make its supercomputer procurement procedures more transparent and nondiscriminatory, a Japanese official told reporters. The official said Hills, referring to tough sentiment in the U.S. Congress, also stressed to Matsunaga that import promotion plans such as the latest MITI program should lead to results.

Matsunaga's meeting with Mosbacher was more productive and led to agreement on trade expansion talks later this month and the first meeting on industrial cooperation between the two agencies in April. Michael Farren, undersecretary of commerce for international trade, said: "We had a very good meeting."

In the State Department meeting, Matsunaga and Baker agreed on Japan - U.S. coordination to prevent China's isolation from the international community. The Japanese minister received a briefing on U.S. policy toward China from Bush's National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft. Bush, who received from Matsunaga a letter from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, told the Japanese trade minister he and Kaifu enjoy a good relationship, Japanese officials said. Baker told Matsunaga that the U.S. and Japan should further strengthen relations by holding productive talks on SII and other issues.

Matsunaga also met William Reilly, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, to discuss the Japanese and U.S. budgets for environmental protection and technological development. Reilly invited the MITI minister to attend an international environmental conference here in April, a Japanese official said. Matsunaga said his ministry will present Japanese suggestions for measures to protect the global environment by the time of the April conference.

Matsunaga, who arrived in Washington on Tuesday, is due to leave for home on Friday morning.

Declines To Commit to Issues

OW1201082690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0736 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Washington, Jan. 11 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Hikaru Matsunaga on Thursday declined to commit Japan to resolve satellite, supercomputer and forest product trade issues with the United States by the end of March. At a news conference here, Matsunaga declined to respond to questions about the March 31 deadline set by U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills. But he did say that the two countries will hold meetings between experts on the subjects in coming weeks. The U.S. has determined under its Omnibus Trade Law that Japan exercised "priority" practices involving the three categories to the detriment of American firms.

Ending a U.S. trip which also took him to Dallas, Texas, Matsunaga told reporters that he telephoned Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu now on a European tour to report on his meetings with President George Bush and his top advisers.

The trade minister stressed the importance of the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks but stopped short of making specific comments about Japan's rice policy. "Subsidies appear to be the focal point of agricultural talks" under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Matsunaga said, adding, however, that none of the U.S. leaders he met with mentioned the rice matter.

Asked about the impact of trade disputes with the U.S. on a general election in Japan, the trade minister said, "Let's talk about it after returning home."

Matsunaga said Japan's voluntary curbs on auto exports to the U.S. also did not come up in talks with Hills or Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher. The current annual quota of 2.3 million units is due to expire at the end of March.

Hills told Matsunaga at their meeting earlier in the day that the U.S. expects Japan to speed up the processing of patent applications by foreign individuals and companies, a Japanese official said.

Returns Home

OW1301092490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 13 KYODO—Hikaru Matsunaga, minister of international trade and industry, returned Saturday from a six-day tour of the United States for talks with U.S. officials on bilateral economic issues. While in Washington, Matsunaga met with Vice President Dan Quayle, Trade Representative Carla Hills, Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher, and other senior officials. Prior to his visit to the U.S. capital, Matsunaga addressed local businessmen in Dallas, Texas, on Japan's efforts to open its market.

Late Budget Approval May Hinder Maneuvers

OW1001103990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 10 KYODO—The Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) may not be able to take part in the "Rimpac '90" naval maneuvers this year because the approval of the fiscal 1990 state budget in the Diet is expected to be delayed, Defense Agency sources said Wednesday. MSDF's squadron must depart from Japan as late as early April to participate in the maneuvers, but the budget approval is expected after May because a general election will be held in February. Japan's national budget is usually approved in the Diet in early April.

The Defense Agency is requesting 1 billion yen for expenses for "Rimpac" in the fiscal 1990 budget. The naval maneuvers have been held in the central Pacific every two years since 1971, and have previously taken place from mid-June to late July. However, this year's "Rimpac" will be held from mid-April to late May for the convenience of the United States, the sources said. The United States, Australia, Canada, and Japan are to join the exercise, with South Korea as well participating for the first time.

The MSDF has participated in the exercise since 1980 and plans to send eight destroyers, 10 submarines and supply vessels and eight antisubmarine P3-C patrol planes to "Rimpac" this year.

Bank Governor Pledges Action To Bolster Yen

OW1001100890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 10 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday the Central Bank will step up its market intervention to prop up the faltering yen against the U.S. dollar in concerted action with other major Western nations. His remarks, made at his first press conference of the year, reflects his growing irritation over the yen's unabated weakness, which is likely to intensify further due to concern over the political situation in Japan and Eastern Europe.

Describing currency movements in the past few days as "quite speculative," Mieno blamed various rumors circulating recently in the currency markets for the instability of foreign exchange rates. Despite the the Japanese central bank's persistent attempts to drive the U.S. unit down against yen, the dollar was hovering above the 145 yen-level in Tokyo's late afternoon dealings. Mieno, however, ruled out the prospect that the yen will weaken further and expressed his view that the currency market will stabilize soon.

"I believe there is still some assessment in the market that the basic trend has already been totally reversed," Mieno told reporters. Analysts, meanwhile, point out currency dealers generally remain convinced that the yen will for the time being come under pressure in part because of the West German mark's continued strength against other currencies.

Mieno told reporters policy coordination among the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations remain firm and he said there is no need for G-7 countries to meet together at this point to simply talk about the currency issue. He clearly declared that market intervention is the most effective tool at the moment to dampen speculative moves.

"The cooperative system (established among the G-7 for currency stability) has been working effectively and I just don't have any information on such meetings," Mieno said. The top monetary official was referring to speculation that the interim committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and a G-7 gathering preceding it will be convened as early as toward the end of January. Mieno also expressed hope that the narrowing interest rate gap between the U.S. and Japan, a result of the central bank's recent action, will help stabilize the yen-dollar rate more in line with the fundamental economic strength of the two countries. The Bank of Japan raised its official discount rate late in December by half a percentage point to 4.25 percent per annum.

Shrugging off the view that the yen has already lost its attractiveness amid the rapidly changing world political scene, Mieno said any currency movements far deviating from such economic fundamentals would be short-lived. Mieno called a recent rise in long-term interest rates inevitable and attributed it to a correction of the protracted sluggishness of those rates compared to short-term interest rates which remained higher than long rates.

"It is up to movements in the market to determine the future direction of market rates," Mieno said, adding that excessive rate movements should be avoided. Since the beginning of the year, the Japanese bond market continued to soften mainly due to the yen's renewed fall against the dollar, causing a correction of the prolonged inverted yield curve. Mieno said short-term money market rates in Japan are gradually coming closer to the targeted range of the central bank better reflecting actual economic performance. He did not refer to the specific rate levels, however.

Labor Group Vows To Oust LDP From Power

OW1101111790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 11 KYODO—Japan's largest labor organization Rengo on Thursday declared it will make best efforts to oust the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] from power in the next general election for the House of Representatives, expected in February. The 8 million-strong Japanese trade union confederation said it will make best efforts to force the LDP into losing its Lower House majority. Rengo confirmed those targets at a meeting of its decision-making Central Executive Committee, officials said.

It reconfirmed strengthened support for four noncommunist opposition parties—the Japan Socialist Party [JSP], Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] and the United Social Democratic Party [USDP]. Together with the opposition parties and affiliated labor unions, Rengo will try to oust the LDP from power and replace it with a new government.

The LDP has been in power continuously since it was created in 1955 through the merger of two conservative parties and has 294 seats in the 512-seat lower house at present.

Korean Union Leader Seeks Government Arbitration

OW1001141490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0957 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Takamatsu, Jan. 10 KYODO—A South Korean union leader said on Wednesday he would ask the Japanese Government to arbitrate in a dispute between his union and the Korean subsidiary of a Japanese firm which withdrew from South Korea last October. Yang Hi-sok, union leader of the Korea-based Asia Swany Corp., a former subsidiary of the Japanese glove manufacturer Swany Corp., accused the parent company of having had no intention of meeting the union's demands. Yang said Swany Corp., located in Kagawa Prefecture in western Japan, should reopen its Korea-based subsidiary for full-time operation. He said the

Japanese company had not paid wages after the subsidiary was shut down on October 1 last year.

A company director, who asked not to be identified, said the firm had paid the employees in accordance with a South Korean labor standard law. He said the firm had pulled out of South Korea due to a deficit accumulated by its subsidiary. Yang and four other union leaders have continued their negotiations with Swany Corp. to seek a settlement of the labor dispute since arriving in Japan on December 22.

Construction Ministry To Ban Bid-Rigging

OW1001093290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 10 KYODO—The Construction Ministry Wednesday decided on measures aimed at banning bid-rigging, known as "dango," in public works projects, ministry officials said. The measures, to be incorporated in administrative guidelines governing bidding for public works projects, would prohibit bidders from engaging in collusive practices that violate the antimonoploy law, the officials said. The guidelines, they said, would take effect by the end of this month at the earliest.

The move came as the latest of a series of efforts by Japan to thwart U.S. retaliation over alleged collusive practices in Japan's construction market. Construction is one of the areas involved in a trade dispute between Tokyo and Washington, with the United States seeking wider access to Japan's construction market. The United States has repeatedly urged Japan to tighten controls on bid-rigging to make bidding procedures fair, insisting that Tokyo allow U.S. companies to compete on construction jobs in a fair manner. In a related development, the United States announced last November that it would call off a threat to retaliate for alleged bid-rigging, an action it said has kept U.S. firms from taking part in Japanese construction projects.

The U.S. retaliation would have been invoked under the 1988 Trade Act, which gives the U.S. Administration the power to take such action unilaterally if a nation is found to have unfair trade practices after a review mandated under the controversial legislation. Japan and the United States have been negotiating on the construction issue, with the next round of talks slated for January 19 in Washington. The officials said Japan will explain the latest anticollusion measures at the coming bilateral talks in order to keep Washington from deciding to impose retaliatory sanctions on Japan.

The United States has set a May deadline for concluding the trade talks on construction, and said sanctions could still be imposed if Japan does not further open its construction market.

Mongolia

Democratic Union Meets, Reads Draft Program

OW1501135890 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The Mongolian Democratic Union, an informal public organization set up late last year, held a sanctioned public meeting in Ulaanbaatar Sunday. During the meeting, the Union members read out a draft program of action of the Union and appealed to the Mongolian people.

The draft program includes five sections, spelling out the Union's viewpoints on the ways and directions of the [words indistinct] society. Most criticized the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party for monopoly of power, while at the same time speakers at the meeting voiced understanding in respect of the historical role of the party in accomplishing the 1921 people's revolution. Many speakers demanded that former Mongolian leader Tsedenbal, who is currently living in Moscow, be brought to justice.

In their appeal to the Mongolian people, the Union defines itself as a public and political organization which appeared as an objective law of social development. It has called for the consolidation of all efforts to destroy the present structure imbued with built-up Stalinism. According to the coordination council of the Union, it has now almost 60,000 members.

Foreign Envoys Visit Batmonh, Sodnom on New Year

OW1601054190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] Heads of foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Ulaanbaatar have called on Mongolian leaders Batmonh and Sodnom, congratulating the latter on the occasion of the New Year of 1990.

Batmonh Greets New Czechoslovak President

OW1601054590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] Mongolian President Jambyn Batmonh has congratulated Vaclav Havel in connection with his election to the post of the president of Czechoslovakia. The Mongolian leader voiced the resolve to [words indistinct] the nations in all-round cooperation between the two countries in the spirit of [words indistinct].

Peljee Receives Bulgarian Deputy Minister

OW1001141790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 15 Dec 89

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Mongolian side of the Mongolian-Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation Peljee has met, in Ulaanbaatar, Deputy Minister of Economy and Planning of Bulgaria, Deputy Chairman of the Bulgarian part of the Intergovernmental Commission Pankov. The latter is taking part in the meeting in Ulaanbaatar to coordinate the national economic plans of Mongolia and Bulgaria in 1991-1995.

MPRP Greets Afghanistan Party Anniversary

OW1001115190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee has sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan in connection with its 25th foundation anniversary. The message voices support to the just struggle of the Afghan people for strengthening the country's independence, effecting progressive changes, and politically resolving the problems around Afghanistan. It also expresses internationalist solidarity with the Afghan people.

Union of Mongolian Teachers Established

OW1601045690 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] A Union of Mongolian Teachers has been instituted in the country. Its object is to help intensify and deepen the forces of reconstruction and renewal in the public education sphere and mobilize efforts of teachers to this end. At its constituent meeting the charter of the union was approved and its executive council elected. The union elected as president first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Science, Technology, and Higher Education [name indistinct].

North Korea

North Sends Letter to South's Political Leaders

SK1301035790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0306 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] A letter adopted at a joint meeting of the representatives of the DPRK Government and political parties in Pyongyang on 9 January was delivered through Panmunjom at 1000 today to No Tae-u, South Korean President and President of the Democratic Justice Party; Kang Yong-hun, South Korean prime minister; Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy; Kim Yong-sam, president of the Reunification Democratic Party; and Kim Chong-pil, president of the New Democratic Republic Party.

The letter reads as follows:

A letter addressed to the South Korean authorities and the heads of each political party:

With time passing and generations changing, it is already 45 years since the country was divided, and the 20th century, in which the ruin of the nation and division have lasted, has now entered the last decade. Having passed another year and having entered the nineties with the pain of national division in their hearts, our fellow countrymen indeed can hardly bear the suffering of division, worrying about the future of the country and the nation which still cannot be predicted.

As acknowledged by everyone, with each passing day the aspirations of our fellow countrymen for reunification grow higher, the barriers of division become thicker and the seas of confrontation and distrust become deeper. This is our reality. A North-South dialogue has been repeated for nearly 20 years, but it has fruitlessly continued without any outcome. This is also a stark reality.

Unless we find a way to break through the difficulties in the face of this grim reality, the road to reunification will be never open no matter how much time goes by, and the resulting misery and suffering of our fellow countrymen will last indefinitely. We should no longer prolong the nearly half-century history of division, but open the door to reunification without fail in the nineties.

Having taken these ardent aspirations of our nation and the solemn demands of the times into deep consideration, the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song, in his New Year address, declared an epoch-making save-the-nation measure to pull down the barriers of division, to realize free visits, to achieve full-scale opening between the North and the South, and proposed to convene a North-South top-level consultative conference of the authorities and each political party in the North and the South to realize the measure.

This is another clear expression of the firm will and consistent efforts of the Workers Party of Korea and the government of the Republic to accomplish the cause of national reunification at the earliest possible date in conformity with the aspirations and opinions of the nation, and to show its genuine grave determination to overcome the difficulties in the way of reunification and effect a drastic turn in solving the problem of reunification.

We are firmly convinced that the realization of this epochal nation-saving measure is the most realistic way to remove the pain of our fellow countrymen caused by division and to open a breakthrough for reunification by pooling the strength of the entire nation.

As you know well, the spirit of reunification has recently grown in the North, the South, and abroad. Those families and relatives who live separated from each other have raised their voices demanding their reunion. Those in the political, economic, cultural, and religious fields, youths and students, and people of other walks of life have strongly knocked at the door of reunification, demanding mutual visits, contacts, and dialogue by surmounting the barriers of division. This fierce eruption of the heated spirit of reunification, which has been repressed for scores of years, should not and cannot be checked by anyone. The warm desires of the fellow countrymen should be changed into the joy of reunion without delay and linked to the road of free visits and contacts.

From this standpoint, we consider that as the first step to demolish the barriers of division and open the door of reunification, the steel and concrete barriers in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line should first of all be removed. The concrete barriers, which divide the national territory and extend to the east and the west without a break, are a symbol of division and confrontation and a mechanism that separates the North from the South.

The existence of the Military Demarcation Line is lamentable. In addition, the existence of even the artificially built barriers cannot but be a disgrace of the nation. If South Korea demolishes the concrete barriers, we will immediately remove the iron fence on our side's area. The concrete barriers must be removed and then, the North and the South should realize free visits and full-scale opening.

Free visits should, literally, not be discriminatory or restrictive to anyone. The opening of the North and the South should be a full-scale opening covering all fields, including the political, economic, and cultural fields.

These free visits and full-scale opening will no doubt serve as an epoch-making occasion to alleviate the pain of our fellow countrymen who live separated in the North and the South. Also, they will open a broad path for powerfully pushing ahead with the cause of national reunification as a pan-national cause by making it possible to communicate between figures in each party and grouping and people of all walks of life and to pool strength and wisdom on the basis of mutual understanding and trust.

This important historic measure, which will eliminate the barriers of division which have been solidified for scores of years and which will open the door to reunification, addresses a political problem, which should be solved by the determination of responsible politicians of the two sides, rather than an administrative problem which should be dealt with between the authorities in the North and the South.

Herein lies the reason why we appealed to the South Korean authorities and the heads of each political party for negotiations to solve this problem.

The people at home and abroad are watching with deep interest every act by Korean politicians. In particular, they are watching the attitude of the South Korean politicians toward our epoch-making nation-saving measure. We think it the very time that whether they are among the authorities or the ruling and opposition parties, the responsible South Korean politicians should make a resolute determination to provide an epochal turn in national reunification together with us.

As long as you have unanimously said that you desire reunification and have expressed a welcome to another country's opening the barriers of division, you will have no reason for objecting to demolishing the barriers of division and to opening the door of reunification in our country nor do you have any reason for hesitating to discuss the problem.

Expressing the hope that a consultative conference of the authorities and each political party with the North-South highest-level participation will be held without fail, we courteously propose that preliminary contacts for the convocation of this consultative conference be held in Panmunjom early in February 1990.

We consider it good that delegates authorized by the authorities in the North and the South and the heads of each political party will attend preliminary contacts and that the number of delegates will be five or so from the North and the South, respectively.

We express our expectation that you will show an affirmative response to our save-the-nation proposal to make the 1990s a historic decade for pulling down the barriers of division and for opening the door of reunification.

[Signed] A joint meeting of the representatives of the DPRK Government and political parties.
[Date] 9 January 1990, Pyongyang

Yang Hyong-sop Sends Letter to South Counterpart

SK1501040590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0343 GMT 15 Jan 90

[A telephone message to Kim Chae-sun, South Korean House Speaker, from Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, in connection with the 84th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union scheduled for this fall]

[Text] Dear Kim Chae-sun, House Speaker of ROK:

To deliver a letter containing our proposal in connection with the 84th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which is scheduled to be held this fall, I will send two liaison officials to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1500 on 17 January. I hope your side will take the appropriate measure for this.

No Agreement Reached in Fifth Sports Meeting

SK1601053790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The fifth round of the contact of working-level delegates of the North-South sports talks to discuss the formation of a single North-South team for the 11th Asian Games was held in camera yesterday in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

After the contact, Chang Ung, our side's delegate, met with reporters and explained how the contact proceeded that day.

He said that at the meeting that day, our side made clear our principled stand, saying that the basic task of the working-level delegates of the two sides is to draft the ten points on the formation of a single team, to complete the drafting of the detailed rules concerning the formation and operation of the joint committee and the joint secretariat for the single team, and to discuss the issue of guaranteeing the sincere implementation of the agreement.

First, saying that the draft letter of agreement on the formation of the single team is a basic proposal for the formation of the single team, our side stressed that the working-level contact that day must start with the drafting of the ten points on the formation of the single team. Our side went on to say: Our stand on the formation and operation of a joint organization for the formation of the single team and detailed rules concerning this joint organization is to draft, in the contact that day, the proposal for the formation and operation of a joint organization for the formation of the single team, a proposal advanced by the South side and approved of by us in the sixth full-dress talks. Our stand on the issue of a measure to guarantee the sincere implementation of the agreement is to let the Olympic committees of the two sides guarantee the sincere implementation and to let the premiers of the two sides endorse this.

Our side expressed our stand on the issue of supplementary rules, which the South side raised in the previous, fourth working-level contact. In connection with this, our side said that because this issue has nothing to do with the formation of the single team and because the two sides have agreed to discuss and solve it in the joint committee for the single team, it is not an issue that by nature can be discussed in the contact of the working-level delegates, adding that it will be a correct attitude to withdraw the supplementary rules.

After demanding that the drafting of the 10-point proposal for the formation of the single team and the proposal for the formation and operation of the joint organization for the formation of the single team be completed and that only the issue of guaranteeing the implementation of the agreement be discussed to ensure that the agreement will be signed in the next, 7th full-dress talks, thus declaring the birth of the single team, our side urged the South side to accept our proposal. After that, our side handed over to the South side four draft letters of agreement, including the draft letter of agreement on the formation of the single North-South team for the 11th Asian Games in Beijing, the draft letter of agreement on the formation and operation of the joint committee and joint secretariat for the Korea team, and the draft letter of agreement on implementing the agreement.

However, even though it said that sportsmanship is important or that it is important to put the agreement into practice, the South side insisted on discussing, first, miscellaneous supplementary rules that it put forth in the previous contact. In connection with this, again making it clear that the content of the supplementary rules, which the South side put forth, have nothing to do with the formation of the single team and that the supplementary rules are an issue that the two sides have already agreed will be discussed in the joint committee for the single team, our side flatly said that they are not issues that by nature can be discussed in the contact of the working-level delegates.

Upon hearing our strong logic and powerful persuasion, the South side could not but agree to discuss the preamble of the 10-point proposal for the formation of the single team. However, after pretending to start the drafting of the preamble of the 10-point proposal for the formation of the single team, the South suddenly changed its attitude and beat about the bush, again insisting that the supplementary rules be discussed. Moreover, the South side unhesitatingly made the irrelevant remarks that unless the supplementary rules be discussed, it will be difficult to form the single team. In response, our side said: Even though the two sides have already agreed in principle on what issues must be solved in this contact of working-level delegates, terming even issues that have nothing to do with the formation of the single team or that will be discussed in the joint committee as supplementary rules, the South side again put forth 37 detailed points, almost half of the 78 detailed points of the 10-point proposal, thus creating an obstacle and confusion in the way of the talks. Our side asked where on earth is the South trying to lead the current talks.

Also, after saying that the South side is also playing unjust tricks in connection with the letter of agreement on the formation and operation of the joint committee, our side recalled that we agreed on the South side's proposal for the formation and operation of the joint organization for the formation of the single team in the sixth full-dress talks. Our side disclosed that the proposal at that time consisted of 57 detailed points, including the title, that the number of items in the draft letter of agreement, which the South side put forth in the previous working-level contact, increased to 62; that 2 supplementary rules are included in the South side's draft letter of agreement; and that no fewer than 27 items of the 57 detailed points of the original proposal were revised. Just like a person opposing an idea just to oppose it, when our side agrees on a certain proposal, the South side puts forth a revised proposal, and when our side again agrees on this revised proposal, the South side puts forth another. The attitude of the South side in the talks shows that it has another objective.

Our side disclosed that the South side's proposal for holding goodwill games before the joint committee is formed has nothing to do with the current talks. Our side said that even though the South side said that the goodwill games are necessary for promoting the atmosphere, examining whether or not each side has a will to form the single team, and facilitating sports exchange, when the current talks are successfully concluded, the atmosphere will be improved naturally. Saying that our will to form a single team has already been proven at home and abroad and that if the single team is formed, a road toward sports exchange will open naturally, our side asked the South side not to make remarks that cannot convince anyone.

Saying that the South side's proposal for exchanging teams to inspect facilities before the joint committee is inaugurated is also preposterous, our side said that it would be all right for the officials of the joint secretariat, which will be based in each side, to inspect sports facilities and asked why it is necessary to inspect facilities in a separate round. However, saying that it is unjust for us to demand that the supplementary rules be withdrawn or that the goodwill games have something to do with the full-dress talks, the South side repeated its unjust demands.

In response, our side again urged the South to start the drafting of the ten points as the two sides have already agreed on if it has truly a will to form the single team. Pointing out that the South side continuously reversed the issues agreed on by the two sides, thus creating an artificial obstacle to the talks, our side recalled that even though in the 2d and 3d full-dress talks the South side agreed on discussing in the joint committee how to hold tryouts, it insisted in the 4th full-dress that an agreement be reached on this issue in the full-dress talks in order to hand the result over to the joint committee. Our side also recalled that the South side reversed the agreement on the ten points on the formation of the single team. Also, saying that the South side reversed the agreement on the detailed rules concerning the formation and operation of the joint committee, our side pointed out that it revised 27 of the detailed points.

In particular, referring to the fact that the South advanced a shameful proposal to send international organizations a letter in case no single team is formed, our side disclosed that this only means that it would prevent the successful conclusion of the talks, that it would not sign the agreement, that it would not form the joint committee, and that it opposes the formation of the single team itself.

Moreover, in the contact that day, saying that the ten points which the two sides agreed on after discussing them for several months are nothing but insubstantial ones and that supplementary rules are important, the South side enumerated the sophistry that the supplementary rules must first be discussed.

In response, saying that the South side's unjust stand had been clearly disclosed, our side repeatedly asked whether or not the South side has any intention to form a single team. Consequently, because of the South side's unjust stand and attitudes, no successes could be brought about in the contact that day.

In summing up the contact that day, we pointed out that the South side's demand that the contact of the working-level delegates discuss even those issues that have nothing to do with the formation of the single team and that it had agreed to should be discussed in the joint committee is part of a shallow trick whereby if the discussions on the formation of the single team fail to reach an agreement, the South will pass the responsibility to us. Our side flatly said that no matter what tricks the South side may play, it will not be able to escape from the responsibility for delaying the formation of the single team. Our side also warned that if, despite our repeated advice, the South side insists on discussing the supplementary rules, which by their nature cannot be discussed in the contact of the working-level delegates, and if, as a result, no single team is formed, the South side will not be able to escape from the responsibility to the entire nation and history. Our side stressed that if the South side is at all interested in the formation of a single team, it must change its unjust attitude and sincerely come to discussions in the next talks to draft the ten points on the formation of the single team and the detailed rules concerning the formation and operation of the joint organization for the formation of the single team and to discuss the issue of a measure guaranteeing the implementation of the agreement.

South's Efforts To Impede Sports Talks Hit

SK1401085890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0815 GMT 14 Jan 90

["South Side Must Not Hinder Formation of Single Team"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Sunday comments on the undisguised efforts of the South side to impede the formation of a single team.

The news analyst says:

As for the formation of a single team, the issue began to be discussed at the North-South sports talks last year on the initiative of our side and the two sides have reached a complete agreement on the ten major points such as the name, the song and the flag of the team which were put on the agenda as things essential. The South side, however, doggedly opposes the confirmation and announcement of the matters agreed upon already at the end of last year and deliberately hinders the formation of the single team by reversing the agreed points and coming out with new problems.

At the recent working-level contact of the North-South sports talks, the South side blocked the progress of the discussion by coming out with "supplementary principles" on such irrelevant issues as organization of "friendly exchange matches" before the formation of a joint committee allegedly for "creation of atmosphere." This is a deliberate act to lay artificial hurdles in the way of the formation of the single team.

Although the South side agreed that each side should provide the visiting athletes with transportation and other services in its area, it now insists that each side should take its own vehicles to the other side.

At the sixth round of the talks, the South side said it might take one whole year to reach an agreement on a single phrase, and proposed sending to the organizing committee of the Asian Games in Beijing and the Asian Olympic Council a "letter" to the effect that the North and the South would separately participate in the games in case they fail to form a single team. This reveals its sinister intention to create one obstacle after another and bring the formation of the single team to a failure.

If the South Korean rulers create new obstacles in the way of the discussion and thus make it impossible to form the single team, they will be unable to escape curses and denunciation by the entire fellow countrymen.

South Koreans Praise North Leaders at New Year

SK1501104090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—The South Korean people wholeheartedly wish the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life on the New Year, according to the South Korean radio "Voice of National Salvation".

A reporter Kim of SEOUL SINMUN office told his colleagues, ushering in the new year:

Respected President Kim Il-song is the peerless patriot who has devoted his whole life to shaping the destiny of the country and the nation and the father of the nation whom our fellow countrymen hold in high esteem as the sun.

When looking back on last year, the movement for reunification was activated, gaining momentum along with the anti-U.S. movement for independence and anti-dictatorship movement for democracy which surged high than ever before. It is, therefore, the obligation of people to express thanks to him and wish him good health and long life.

His colleagues could hardly repress their feelings of reverence for him, saying:

"May President Kim Il-song live a long life in good health."

A fourth-year student Pak of Hanyang University in Seoul stressed:

It is the great President Kim Il-song and the leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who should receive the first New Year's greetings of our nation and people.

A student Yi of Sogang University remarked:

The long life and good health of President Kim Il-song and the leader Mr. Kim Chong-il is the greatest desire and joy and happiness of our nation.

While reading "The Present Time and the Tasks of Young People", a work of the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il and hearing his answers to the questions raised by the director of the Cuban paper GRANMA over the radio of the North, I hardened my resolution to more valiantly rise in the struggle for independence and reunification against the United States this year.

Dailies Comment on No's New Year Speech

SK1301053090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today hit at the tirade of the traitor No Tae-u at his "New Year press conference" about the "economic problem," "North-South relations," the "Northern policy" and "security matters."

In a commentary captioned "Political Fraud Marked by Swindle, Hypocrisy and Deception," a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

At a "press conference" for giving one's "opinions on the political situation" he should elaborate on practical problems awaiting an urgent solution such as the "liquidation of the legacies of the Fifth Republic," an acute political issue on the order of the day in South Korea, and the demolition of the wall between the North and the South, which is the urgent prerequisite to reunification.

But the demand of the South Korean people and the urgent desire of the nation for reunification were ignored at the "New Year press conference", which was a political drama run through with shameless lies and humbuggery, hypocrisy and reversed facts.

It was the economic matter on which he put stress in the internal problems of South Korea.

Lamenting over the "stupendous difficulty and agony" the South Korean economy is now suffering, the traitor distorted fact by ascribing this to the disputes and wage hike struggle of workers and threatened that he would "sternly deal with" them in the future.

The very criminals who have wrought havoc with the economy are trying to shift the blame on to the workers, the victims. This reveals their hideous fascist scheme to put down at the point of the bayonet the action of workers for existence, concealing their own crimes in deteriorating the people's living.

Referring to the commitments to "social welfare" vaunted by the puppet, the commentary dismisses this as sham commitment to lull the discontent and protest of the people to his treacherous socio-economic policy and refurbish his image.

The news analyst continues:

The utterances of No Tae-u on the North-South relations that day deserve bitterer accusation at home and abroad.

The whole world knows that we put forward at the outset of the year a momentous national salvation proposal to pull down the wall of division between the North and the South and ensure free travel and total opening.

Unable to turn down point-blank our justifiable and reasonable proposition to save the nation and proposal for negotiation, afraid of internal and external public opinion, he went through the motion of "welcoming" the "free travel" and "total opening." He, however, totally shunned the question of the removal of the concrete wall, the core of our proposal, keeping mum about it, and brought forward again the "summit talks" which he had insisted on, not answering the question of convening a top-level conference involving the heads of the authorities and leaders of political parties of the North and the South. This virtually means that he, afraid of our new save-the-nation proposal, sidestepped it. As for "talks between the top chiefs of the North and the South" claimed by him, they would be realised within the framework of the North-South top-level conference involving the heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties, which was proposed by us.

No Tae-u enumerated "mutual visits of separated families", "formation of a single sports team", "signing of an agreement on traffic and communications", "joint development of tourist resources" including Mt. Kumgang, "exchange of goods" and other matters. But there is nothing new in them. The matters are the same with what they had peddled and the reiteration of the "two Koreas" plot based on the "stage-by-stage concept."

What must not be overlooked is that he viewed the North-South relations from the angle of exchange based on "two Koreas" by crying for "agreement on traffic and communications" and "exchange of goods" as if the North were an alien country and nation.

It, after all, means to let Korea co-exist as "two Koreas", while having personal and material exchange just as between countries. This is an insult to the entire fellow countrymen eagerly longing for national reunification and a challenge to the trend of the time towards reunification.

No Tae-u also blared that he would "substantially promote the Northern policy".

If the South Korean authorities truly welcome free travel and full-scale open door between the North and the South and hope for the country's peaceful reunification, they must renounce the "Northern policy" seeking "cross recognition" and "U.N. membership" and take a practical step to allow indiscriminate visits, unrestricted contact between the North and the South and free debate on reunification, not seeking "unified-channel dialogue".

The United States had announced that it would stage "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises on a "reduced scale" for financial difficulties. But No Tae-u ridiculously described it as a positive step for North-South dialogue and relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

If the United States and the South Korean authorities truly want the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification, they must totally stop the joint exercises, not confining themselves to reducing their scale a little, and completely withdraw the U.S. forces and its nuclear weapons from South Korea, not maintaining the aggressive "system of cooperation for security".

The news analyst of MINJU CHOSON says:

The traitor No Tae-u is attempting to prolong his days by misleading public opinion at home and abroad with falsity and deception and continuing his moves of fascism division and war in the new year. But they are futile efforts.

No's Group Blames Economic Crisis on Workers

SK1401091290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0821 GMT 14 Jan 90

["Shameless Smear Campaign"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON in a commentary today denounces the attempts of the No Tae-u group to shift the blame for the serious economic crisis onto the workers by shameless false propaganda and distortion of facts.

Recalling that the traitor No Tae-u in his "New Year press conference" said the "stupendous difficulty and agony" the South Korean economy is suffering are attributable to "fierce labour-management disputes" and workers' struggle for wage hike, and threatened he would "sternly deal with them," the news analyst says:

As for the crisis of the South Korean economy growing acute, it is a natural product of the colonial dependent economy and a consequence of the puppets' treacherous economic policy.

It is a shameless false propaganda for the traitor No Tae-u to contend that the South Korean economic crisis was caused by workers' struggle for wage hike and labour disputes.

The traitor No Tae-u sought to justify the suppression of the workers' struggle for existence when he blamed the workers for the economic crisis, criminalizing their wage hike struggle and disputes.

That day the traitor No Tae-u drivelled on his "commitments" to "people's livelihood and public peace" and "social welfare." But this was a crafty ruse to lull the discontent and resistance of the people against his group's treacherous economic policy.

NODONG SINMUN on South's Labor Problems

SK1201062290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Fascist Violence of Military Blackguards"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean military fascists recently arrested 62 workers including the trade union chairmen of two factories in Puchon, Kyonggi Province, by sending 440 police while the workers were staging a sit-in strike for the right to existence.

NODONG SINMUN today says that this is an intolerable challenge to the workers calling for the right to existence and an open threat with bayonet to the entire South Korean patriotic forces renewing their determination in the new year to fight for independence, democracy and reunification.

The news analyst notes:

Meddling in labor-management problems, they defend the exploiters and put down the working masses by "government" power. This is an unpardonable criminal act, which can be committed only by the anti-popular rulers estranged from the people.

Afraid of the struggle of awakened workers, the South Korean rulers are trying to block the action of the workers and stifle the overall movement for independence, democracy and reunification by raising a fiercer fascist storm of "security-orientated rule".

The suppression by the military fascists will only result in hardening the resolution of the South Korean workers to fight, stresses the commentary.

Opinion Poll in South on Trade With North Cited

SK1301045890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—A South Korean consumer protection institute recently conducted an opinion poll among 1,000 people of different walks of life in 50 odd areas of South Korea on market opening and the majority of those polled demanded economic exchange with the Northern half of the country, according to a report.

Eighty percent of them expressed wrath at the U.S. pressure to open the market and the criminal act of the No Tae-u puppet clique in yielding to it and totally opening the South Korean markets and denounced it as "an unjustifiable act".

And 85 percent of those polled deplored the bankruptcy of the South Korean economy and their impoverishment resulting from the opening of the South Korean market and opposed the expanded opening of the agricultural market.

South's Purchase of British Jets Denounced

SK1201071290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet clique is planning to introduce 20 "Hawk" fighter planes from Britain, according to a report of the British paper TIMES.

The puppets are on the point of signing a contract for this with the British Aerospace Consortium.

The paper said that the South Korean puppet clique might wind up ordering about 100 fighters from the British aerospace.

The puppets had decided to take over 120 jet fighters from the United States and buy submarines from West Germany in order to step up war preparations against the North.

These moves of the puppet clique clearly show how feverishly they are running about for confrontation and provocation of a war against the North behind the curtain of dialogue with us.

Chon's Assembly Testimony Not Accepted in South

SK1101004090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2253 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 10 (KCNA)—Broad public circles of South Korea denounce the deceptive "testimony at the National Assembly" of the traitor Chon Tu-hwan, according to a report.

The "National Council of Professors for Democracy" and the "Council of Dissident Academic Organisations" in a statement on January 6 declared the "'liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies' run through with a political drama deceiving people" null and avoid [as received] and demanded that a special team be formed to probe the "Fifth Republic injustices".

In the meantime, according to an opinion poll conducted by the puppet authorities among 1,000 people of all walks of life throughout South Korea on January 3 and 4, 79 percent of them rejected the traitor Chon's hypocritical "testimony at the National Assembly" and expressed an indignation at Chon's shameless sophism defending and prettifying his crime.

Nearly 70 percent of people complained of National Assemblymen's attitude, saying that their attitude which hushed up the liquidation of the "Fifth Republic legacies" and a probe into the truth behind the Kwangju incident is not understandable.

Seoul Students Rally To Honor Pak Chong-chol

SK1401081890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—More than 1,200 students of 72 campuses in Seoul including Seoul and Hanyang Universities held memorial services Thursday afternoon separately for student Pak Chong-chol on the 3rd anniversary of his death, according to a report.

They vowed to vigorously wage the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and the anti-fascist struggle for democracy, carrying forward the will of student Pak.

Criticising the traitor Chon Tu-hwan's "testimony at the National Assembly" on the Kwangju incident and the "irregularities of the Fifth Republic," they cried: "Down with the present 'regime' which fools the people with the deceptive liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies and suppresses the people".

They declared that they would hold a memorial service for student Pak at the Seoul Myongdong Cathedral on January 14. They set the period till January 18 as a period of denouncing the deceptive "liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies" and decided to hold rallies in those days.

An estimated 300 students of Kyonghui University and University of Foreign Studies held campus rallies and waged street demonstrations, pelting stones at the police.

Daily Interviews Pak Chong-chol's Father

SK1401083290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0807 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—The South Korean newspaper PUSAN ILBO carried an account of an interview by its reporter with old man Pak Chong-ki, father of student Pak Chong-chol who had been tortured to death by the fascist clique in January 1987 while fighting for independence, democracy and reunification.

Asking how can there be a torture in the human world, Pak Chong-ki said that it is nothing but an act for obliterating humanity, destroying man not only physically but also mentally.

Noting that the shocking torture by the fascist clique has not yet ceased, he said: "I hope torture will disappear for good on this land in the 90s".

He stated: "A crooked history produced a crooked 'regime' and such 'regime' without legitimacy has no alternative but to administer the affairs of the state with such violence as torture. But, such despicable torture is, after all, an act digging one's own grave."

Noting that the murderers of Chong-chol were none other than henchmen of the "regime", he declared that he would conduct a campaign to erect a Pak Chong-chol memorial to strip bare the reality of torture, and check the suppression of human rights.

NODONG SINMUN Comments on Yim's Trial

SK1101043090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 11 Jan 90

["Strong-Arm Trial by Hangmen"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the trial of woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Ik-hwan by the fascist clique.

Recalling that the fascist clique forced the fifth hearing without statements of the "defendants" or pleading of lawyers, after sealing off the puppet Seoul District Criminal Court with more than 1,300 police and seating plainclothes men and staffers of the puppet prosecutor's office in the public gallery, the news analyst says:

This was not a trial but a fascist violence and a political drama of the hangmen to impose penalties upon coed Yim and Father Mun according to a prearranged script and put them on the altars of anti-communist confrontation.

Afraid that the patriotic minds of coed Yim and Father Mun should be known to the South Korean people of all walks of life, the fascist clique prevented their contact with their families and defence panel and strictly restricted the audience of the court. In the fifth hearing they shut off even the very small number of observers and did not allow the defence panel to tape-record the statements of the "defendants".

Facts show that the No Tae-u group is a group of traitors seeking a permanent division of the country and a military gang without a shred of human conscience.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan Refuses Trial Due to Illness

SK1401082790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0805 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, who is ailing in prison, refused the trial scheduled for January 12 in the puppet Seoul High Court in protest against the No Tae-u fascist clique's inhuman acts, according to a report.

He said that he refused the trial because his condition was getting worse as the court did not allow him to receive medical treatment.

Rev. Mun had refused to appear in the court at the end of December for the same reason.

The fascist clique is trying to stand the pastor in the murderous court at any cost to punish him while persistently refusing his hospitalization, though he is suffering from illness at his advanced age.

Trial Procedure for Rev. Mun, Yu Denounced

SK1601044290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—The fascist clique, in feverish attempts to punish Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Yu Won-ho who visited the Northern half of Korea as the reunification mission of the South Korean people, tried them in their absence in the puppet Seoul high court Monday, according to a report.

Rev. Mun who is ill in the prison cell had refused to appear at the first and second hearing in the "high court" in protest against the court's denial of his medical treatment. The fascist clique forced the third hearing in the absence of the "defendants".

The fascist clique adopted witnesses that day.

But they adopted two out of the 15 witnesses whom the defence panel applied for, touching off the rage of the public.

Crime Rate in South Korea on Increase

SK1301152690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—A total of more than 1,043,900 criminal cases were reported in South Korea last year, or nearly ten percent up above 1988.

This means that there were about 2,860 cases on a daily average.

Murder, robbery, larceny, violence and other cases occurred one after another in South Korea due to the corrupt American way of life. This is a patent proof of the decadent material, moral and cultural life of people.

Assault by U.S. Soldiers on South Family

SK1401092090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 14 Jan 90

["Outrage of U.S. Imperialist Aggression Army Soldiers in South Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—Two soldiers of the U.S. imperialist aggression army intruded into a civilian house in Seoul on the early morning of January 11 and behaved rudely to touch off a wave of public anger, according to a report.

Wilson Martin, one of the rogues belonging to the 8th Army of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces who jumped into the house in Itaewon-dong, Yongsan District, Seoul, savagely assaulted the family and ran away.

The wife of the host was seriously wounded in this assault.

Such an assault was one of the brutalities committed almost every day in all parts of South Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggression army soldiers who look down upon the South Korean people.

MAC Letter on 'Team Spirit' Sent to NNSC

SK1401082990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Letter by Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member to the Military Armistice Commission, to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission on 13 January—read by announcer]

[Text] To NNSC:

We respectfully submit to the NNSC [Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission] this letter in connection with the fact that the U.S. side is again this year trying to forcibly conduct the "Team Spirit" military exercise.

As your commission knows, in order to hasten the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the government of the Republic recently put forward a new national salvation proposal to destroy the barrier between the North and the South and to realize free travel and complete opening up, and is taking a series of measures to put them into practice.

In the North and South, enthusiasm for reunification grows daily, and expectations that dialogue and negotiations can bear substantial fruit this year grow daily.

At this very moment, the U.S. side announced that it would stage the large-scale "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercise from late January till late April by bringing huge forces into South Korea from overseas. This is a wanton violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and an unpardonable crime in dampening the ever-mounting desire in the North and the South for reunification and placing grave hurdles in the way of realizing the new national salvation proposal we have advanced.

Even though the U.S. side insists that the "Team Spirit" exercise is a defensive exercise, this is nothing but an excuse to conceal the aggressive nature of this exercise and to deceive the public of the world. The fact that a threat of southward invasion does not exist was confirmed long ago and has been recognized by the entire world. If the "Team Spirit" exercise is a defensive exercise, the U.S. side has no reason not to accept our proposal that both sides discontinue large-scale military exercises that may incite or threaten the opposing side or military exercises that may involve a danger of nuclear war. All the facts show that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is not a defensive exercise but a preliminary war and test nuclear war designed to threaten and attack us.

As for prior notification or observation which the U.S. side is talking about, this is inappropriate in circumstances in our country in which the armed forces of both sides are confronting each other in an armistice. Prior notification or invitation for observation cannot remove the opposing side's worry over a large-scale military exercise that threatens the opposing side and that intensify the situation but will worsen enmity between the two sides. Inviting members of the MAC [Military Armisitice Commission] and NNSC, mechanisms to supervise armistice to watch the war game staged against the opposite side in wanton violation of the Armistice Agreement, is, in fact, a mockery of and a challenge to them.

The U.S. side's plan to stage the large-scale military game must be withdrawn either in view of the trend of the times toward detente and peace or in view of the dialogue between the North and the South on which big hope is placed this year.

We expect that the NNSC, whose mission is to contribute to peace and the relaxation of tension in Korea, will pay due attention to the U.S. side's plan to stage the very adventurous and dangerous "Team Spirit-90" and show concern to promoting circumstances and atmospheres favorable for peace on the Korean peninsula and dialogue between the North and South.

Again expressing our respect,
[Signed] Korean People's Army [KPA] Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of the side of the KPA and the Chinese People's Volunteers to the MAC
[Dated] 13 January 1990

Further on Letter of Protest

SK1401085990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Letter by Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member to the Military Armistice Commission, to the senior member of the U.S. side to the Military Armistice Commission on 13 January—read by announcer]

[Text] We send this letter in connection with the fact that the U.S. side is planning to stage the "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercise against us from the end of January to the end of April after mobilizing not only the U.S. Forces in South Korea and the South Korean Armed Forces but also the huge armed forces in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific, in wanton violation of the Armistice Agreement. The fact that the U.S. side is again planning to stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is unpardonable in view of the trend of the world toward detente and peace or of North-South dialogue which is entering a new phase at present.

In particular, they can in no way justify their plan to stage very adventurous and dangerous war exercises at a time when the desire of the North and the South for reunification is growing stronger than ever before, and as the government of the Republic put forward the national salvation proposal to remove the barrier of division between the North and South and ensure free travel and complete opening up.

With a view to removing confrontation between both sides and the danger of a war and difficulties lying in the way of North-South dialogue, we proposed, at the end of last year, to the U.S. side to have negotiations to discuss the matter of discontinuing military exercises fraught with the danger of a nuclear war, and we have made sincere efforts for its materialization.

Far from responding to our just and reasonable proposal for negotiations, the U.S. side announced the plan for the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises this year, too. This is a challenge to our efforts for detente and a grave criminal act of throwing a wet blanket over the desire of the people in the North and the South for reunification and placing an artificial obstacle to realizing the new save-the-nation proposal.

No matter how hard the U.S. side may play such tricks as prior notification or invitation for observation, it cannot cover up the aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit" war exercise.

This plan for war exercises which goes against detente and peace and which threatens North-South dialogue should immediately be withdrawn.

Our side strongly demands that the U.S. side cancel its plan for the "Team Spirit-90" war exercise and join in our efforts to alleviate tension, if it is sincerely interested in alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula and North-South dialogue.

If the U.S. side stages the "Team Spirit 90" war exercises in defiance of the repeated demands of our side, it will be held wholly responsible for all the consequences that may arise therefrom.

'Team Spirit' Troop Reduction 'Insignificant'

SK1301102290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—Papers here today denounce the scheme of the United States and the South Korean rulers to stage "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises.

According to an announcement made simultaneously in Washinoton and Seoul on January 10, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets will stage the "Team Spirit" military exercises from March 14 this year with the mobilization of armed forces more than 180,000 strong, aircraft carriers, destroyers and other combat corps. [word indistinct] the units under the U.S. Pacific Command and the U.S. mainland-based forces will begin moving from late this month for the war game.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are, in actuality, going to stage large-scale joint military exercises for a long period from the beginning of this year and that the aggressive and offensive nature of the exercises remains unchanged, says the news analyst of NODONG SINMUN, adding:

It is shameless of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to claim that they actively reduced the scale of the joint military exercises and shortened their period to create an atmosphere favourable to the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and to the North-South dialogue.

The U.S. imperialists had mobilized over 200,000-strong armed forces in this war gamble each time in recent years. The cutback by 20,000 men this year is so insignificant that it can hardly be regarded as reduction.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets made public only the period of the actual manoeuvres to create the impressions that the period of the exercises is shortened. But the period of this year's actual manoeuvres itself is longer than that of last year.

It is not for "relaxing tension" and "creating an atmosphere of dialogue" but because of srious financial difficulties and the people's demand for a cut of military expenditure and the withdrawal of troops that the U.S. imperialists and the puppets declared that they would slash the military strength participating in the war game.

It is preposterous for them to clamour about "detente" and "dialogue" after publishing a plan for nuclear attack exercises against the other side, the commentary says, and continues:

Announcing the plan, they invited someone to watch it, contending that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises are "defensive exercises" by nature.

The "Team Spirit" manoeuvres are, to all intents and purposes, nuclear attack exercises directed against the Northern half of Korea. Their criminal aim is to render the situation strained to make it impossible to realise our new save-the-nation proposal and push ahead with the aggressive Asia-Pacific strategy, keeping hold on South Korea as a nuclear forward base. Describing their play with nuclear weapons to vanquish others as a "defensive exercise" and inviting someone to watch it is a base insult to and mockery of us.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group should immediately withdraw their plan for the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

We will watch their war moves with heightened vigilence, stresses MINJU CHOSON in a signed commentary.

North Cynical of Reduction

SK1401084290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—Poor conjurers of "Chongwadae" and the puppet Defense Ministry failed to take joint action in the tricky propaganda about the so-called "downgrading" of the "Team Spirit 90" joint military maneuvers to invite the derision of the people, according to a report.

The traitor No Tae-u in his "New Year press conference" January 10 claimed that the decision to stage the "Team Spirit 90" with 180,000 troops, about 20,000 less than before, was aimed at "relaxing the tension between the North and the South."

But, a ranking official of the puppet Defense Ministry, asked what the "reduced scale" implied when announcing the plan of the maneuvers, replied that "the scale of the maneuvers could not but be reduced because of the narrow space of operation" of the Korean peninsula. Hinted by an "information officer" sitting beside, he soon revised his words by saying that the "reduced scale" is, as the "president" has said, aimed at "easing the tension."

Nobody in the world will think that subtracting about 20,000 from the vast forces more than 200,000 strong would "contribute" to "detente."

The reply of the official of the "Defense Ministry" was not a mistake but it shows that the puppets are indifferent to "detente" at all.

With no play with figures can the traitor No Tae-u conceal his criminal pursuit for the aggravation of the tension on the Korean peninsula.

Analyst on 'Team Spirit' Strength

SK1501102690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—The traitor No Tae-u at "the New Year press conference" on January 10 announced that the scale of the "Team Spirit 90" war game would be cut and claimed that this was an active step taken for North-South dialogue and the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula. This advertisement turned out to be false on the very day, causing a public stir.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN news analyst says today:

On the same day the puppet Defence Ministry made public the "Team Spirit" plan. Asked what the reduction of its scale meant, a working officer of the puppet Joint Chiefs of Staff answered: the scale of the exercises had to be cut because of the narrow operational space of the Korean peninsula.

Another officer of the puppet Defence Ministry said that the "reduction of the scale of the game" was decided at the U.S.-South Korea "consultative meeting on security", due to the financial difficulties of the United States.

No Tae-u made his underlings known to be master hands at political humbuggery in the puppet Defence Ministry stage a drama after a rehearsal to back his "New Year press conference".

But he only exposed himself to public disgrace as they confessed to the fact on the stage.

There is a saying that theft can be successful only when the thieves cooperate well. But they cooperated none too well.

The remarks of the underlings in the puppet army were a slap in the face to No Tae-u who attempted to disguise himself as interested in the relaxation of tensions while playing with fire as usual.

Although the United States and the puppets announced that a military strength of 180,000 men would participate in the "Team Spirit 90", the figure only means the combat force. If the logistic personnel are taken into account, there is virtually no reduction in the previous figure of 200,000 or more.

Commentary Denounces 'Team Spirit' Exercise

SK1401121790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0950 GMT 13 Jan 90

[NODONG SINMUN 13 January commentary: "Exercise of Northward Nuclear War Must Be Suspended"]

[Text] Today public opinion at home and abroad expresses full support for the epochal national salvation proposal we have put forward in the new year for realizing free travel and full-scale openness by removing the barriers between the North and the South, and the public hopes that a consultative meeting of the authorities and heads of each political party with the highest-level participation from the North and the South will immediately be convened to discuss and resolve such an important question.

It is now a critical time to effect a basic turning point in resolving the reunification issue by removing the barriers of division in conformity with the aspiration of the all people for reunification.

However, the United States and the South Korean ruling bunch, totally ignoring our new nation-saving proposal and the people's desire for reunification, made public the plan to stage the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercise.

According to the announcement simultaneously made in Washington and Seoul on 10 January, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets will stage the "Team Spirit" military exercises starting on 14 March this year with the mobilization of armed forces more than 180,000 strong, aircraft carriers, destroyers and other combat corps.

The units under the U.S. Pacific Command and the U.S. mainland-based forces which will participate in the exercise will begin moving starting late this month.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are, in actuality, going to start the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise from the beginning of this year, too, and to stage it for a long period of time and on a large scale. This also shows that the aggressive and offensive nature of this exercise has not changed at all.

Branding the criminal act of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group to stage the exercise of northward nuclear attack while following the anachronistic policy for confrontation and war as a criminal act of pouring cold water over the seething people's aspirations to the reunification and of threatening peace and security on the Korean peninsula, in Asia and in the world, we sternly condemn and denounce it.

What is furthermore shameless is that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets spoke as if they reduced the scale of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise and as if they decided to shorten the period of exercise with the initiative to create an atmosphere favorable to the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and to the North-South dialogue.

This is a preposterous lie and mockery against public opinion at home and abroad. The U.S. imperialists had mobilized over 200,000-strong armed forces in this "Team Spirit" war exercise each time in recent years. They said that they will have 180,000 troops participating in the war exercise this year. This number shows a cutback from 200,000 troops by 20,000, and is so insignificant, a mere drop in the bucket, that it can hardly be regarded as reduction.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets are attempting to create the impression that the period of exercise is being shortened by announcing only the period of the actual mobilization exercise. This is also a foolish trick. The period of this year's actual mobilization exercise itself is longer than that of last year.

Furthermore, if one adds the period of training of moving and deploying the troops from overseas, which will begin late this month, and the period of the exercise of the withdrawal stage which will take place after the actual mobilization exercise, there is no change in the overall exercise period.

The claim of the U.S. imperialists and the puppets that they will reduce the scale of troops participating in the exercise is not designed for relaxation of tension and the creation of an atmosphere of dialogue. But such reduction is inevitable because of finanical difficulties and the people's demand for a cut in military expenditures.

Last year, a person called a spokesman of the U.S. Defense Department said that staging a joint exercise in a certain district in such a manner as to increase the efficiency of training according to the practical situation of the budget is inevitable.

Thus, the South Korean papers reported at that time that due to a cut in the U.S. defense budget, the scale of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise will be reduced starting next year.

Answering a question about the significance of reducing the scale of the exercise this time while announcing the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercise plan on 10 January, a working-level person in the puppet Joint Chiefs of Staff said that the scale of the exercise cannot but be reduced due to the narrow operational space on the Korean peninsula. But, being scolded by an intelligence officer, he said that the scale will be reduced to ease tension, hurriedly canceling his previous remarks. Thus, he evoked the people's criticism.

All facts show how deceptive the remarks about easing tension and atmosphere for dialogue made by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets are.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets truly wish to ease tension and foster peace on the Korean peninsula and are interested in the North-South dialogue, even to a slight degree, they should have announced that they welcome our epochal national salvation proposal for realizing free travel and full-scale openness by removing the barriers between the North and the South, and that they would suspend the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, a preliminary war and testing nuclear war against us.

As we have repeatedly stressed, dialogue and war exercises cannot be consistent with each other. Talking about easing tension and dialogue while announcing the plan of nuclear offensive exercise against the other side is preposterous.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets described this time, too, the nature of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise as defensive training while announcing the war exercise plan. They even invited observers to watch this exercise.

The "Team Spirit" war exercise is, to all intents and purposes, a nuclear attack exercise directed against the Northern half of the Republic. Their criminal aim is to render the situation strained, to make it impossible to realize our new save-the-nation proposal and push ahead with the aggressive Asia-Pacific strategy, keeping hold on South Korea as a nuclear forward base.

Describing their play with nuclear weapons to vanquish others as a defensive exercise and even inviting someone to watch it is a base insult and mockery of us.

Through the act of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to again stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, running counter to the basic trend on the Korean peninsula toward reunification, the people of the world have again realized their true nature as nuclear warmongers and destroyers of peace in Korea and the world.

The act of the No Tae-u group, which lets the land be a site of war exercise to provoke an aggressive war against the fellow countrymen in collusion with outside forces, is the worst treacherous act against the nation.

The people will absolutely never tolerate the treacherous No Tae-u group which, ignoring the new epoch-making national salvation proposal put forward by us, follows the policy of aggression and war of the imperialist masters.

Because the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch are going to stage the "Team Spirit" aggressive northward nuclear war exercise this year, too, our people's cause for peace and reunification is being greatly threatened once again.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group should immediately withdraw their plan for the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise.

If the United States and the South Korean puppets advance along the road of further aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula by staging the criminal "Team Spirit" war exercise in the end, the warmongers cannot avoid great rejection and denunciation at home and abroad.

U.S., South Korea Stage Aerial Exercise

SK1301151890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors brought to South Korea several formations of assault planes and of vertical take-off and landing planes from Iwakuni, Japan, their overseas aggression base, on January 10 and 11 in repeated sorties to the sky over an area near the Military Demarcation Line to viciously commit aerial war games simulating surprise strikes at major targets in the Northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

Earlier on January 7 and 8, they and the South Korean puppets frantically staged exercises of striking at ground targets aimed at invading the North by mobilizing scores of "F-16" fighter bombers, "F-4" and "F-5" fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. imperialist aggression Air Force occupying South Korea and the puppet air force.

And the South Korean puppets massively mobilized artillery, tank and armoured vehicle units along with motorized infantry units, and staged provocative round-the-clock attack exercises, field tactical combined exercises, etc. in area near the MDL against the North over the last few days entering this year and, at the same time, hysterically staged exercises against the North in the waters off Paengnong Island, West Sea of Korea, by letting loose a large number of warships, thus inciting war fever.

All the facts vividly show how desperately the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are trying to bring the situation on the Korean peninsula to a more dangerous phase, going against dialogue and detente.

Overflight of U.S. 'Espionage' Plane Reported

SK1301152490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors on January 9 and 10 brought "E-3" AWACS to the sky above South Korea from Okinawa, their overseas aggression base, to conduct aerial espionage on the depth of the Northern half of Korea on five occasions this year, according to military sources.

They let the "U-2" high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane make a shuttle flight from the West Sea to the East Sea of Korea along the Military Demarcation Line for four consecutive days from January 9 to 12 to conduct aerial espionage on the depth and broad areas of the Northern half of the country on 11 occasions in the new year.

On January 9 alone they let 10 reconnaissance planes of different types including "RV-1" fly for intensive provocative aerial espionage.

The U.S. imperialists mobilised a total of 70 reconnaissance planes for aerial espionage against the Northern half of Korea in the first 11 days of this year, the number of its cases more than doubling those in the same period of last year.

This aerial espionage getting more frantic from the beginning of the year proves that the U.S. imperialists, pursuing confrontation and war only, are resorting to the premeditated moves to keep the situation on the Korean peninsula strained and lay an artificial obstacle in the way of North-South dialogue and contact.

Kim Il-song Sends Gift to Soviet Woman 10 Jan

SK1201001690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2238 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 11 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song sent a gift to Soviet woman Lyubovy Ivanovna Stadnik [spelling of name as received] who had saved a Korean child from drowning in Songrim-tong, Songpyong District, Chongjin City.

A presentation ceremony was held on the spot on January 10.

Present there were personages concerned, officials of the Soviet Consulate General in Chongjin and Soviet guests staying there.

A speech was made before the gift was conveyed to Lyubovy Stadnik.

South Magazine Cited on Anti-American Literature

SK1501103690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—South Korean magazine WOLGAN CHOSON carried an article concerning anti-American literature by a literary critic.

The article introduces those works which were suppressed by the fascist clique for strongly expressing anti-American sentiment in South Korea.

The historic fact which concentrically revealed the imperialist color of the United States is the Kwangju uprising in 1980, the article says, and points out:

The fuse to the anti-American sentiments was the anti-U.S. struggle which began with the fire at the "American Cultural Centre" in Kwangju and the "American Cultural Centre" in Pusan. The anti-dictatorship struggle for democracy the main force of which had been the student and dissident movement had the task of anti-U.S. struggle added to it by that time.

The anti-American contents of novels may be classified into those throwing light on the occupationist forces' position of the U.S. military government after the liberation, calling the United States to account for the Kwangju massacre in May, 1980, viewing the relations between South Korea and the United States as subordinate economic relations and throwing light on the state of contradictions and discord in relationship with the United States.

Noting that anti-American consciousness was diversely expressed in poems, too, the article stresses that anti-U.S. struggle and democratisation are a prerequisite to reunification.

Creation of Nuclear-Free Peace Zone Urged

SK1301111090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—If a nuclear-free peace zone is created on the Korean peninsula, one of the most dangerous hotbeds of nuclear war in the world will be removed and a big advance be made in maintaining peace in Asia and other parts of the world, stresses NODONG SINMUN in an article today.

To avert the danger of nuclear war and ensure peace on the Korean peninsula is a pressing task that must be solved for world peace, the author of the article says, and continues:

South Korea has now been converted into a combined nuclear arsenal filled with all sorts of nuclear weapons, means of nuclear delivery and nuclear bases and into a hotbed of nuclear war threatening peace in Asia and other parts of the world. Deployed in South Korea are more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons including neutron bombs called "devilish weapons of the 20th century". South Korea has become the area of highest density in nuclear deployment in the world. It is a prerequisite to overall peace and security in the world to ease military tensions and remove the danger of war on the Korean peninsula where the danger of nuclear war is greater than in any other areas of the world.

In order to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, it is imperative to withdraw U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay. Pointing out that the U.S. reactionary ruling quarters are reinforcing nuclear forces and hastening preparations for a nuclear war in South Korea under the preposterous pretext of "protecting" South Korea from the "threat from the North", the article says:

We do not have a single piece of nuclear weapon. This is a fact recognized by the world. Furthermore, we are heading for the reduction of the armed forces equipped with conventional weapons. It is preposterous to talk about "threat from the North" and "nuclear deterent force" against us. If the nuclear weapons in South Korea are levelled at other socialist countries, the United States must withdraw them since a nuclear arms reduction treaty was signed between the United States and the Soviet Union.

New SFRY Ambassador Presents Credentials

SK1101002890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2256 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 10 (KCNA)—Milan Seslija, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to Korea, presented his credentials today to vice-President Yi Chong-ok.

Present there was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu.

Han Ui-pyo Appointed Ambassador to Poland

SK1601043790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—Han Ui-pyo was appointed ambassador e.p. to the Polish People's Republic, according to a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

New Czeckoslovak Ambassador Arrives 15 Jan

SK1601111590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—New Czechoslovak Ambassador Zbynek Schee to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arrived here yesterday by air.

Australian Socialist Supports Kim's Proposals

SK1101043690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 11 (KCNA)—P. Symon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Australia, at a press conference held in Pyongyang on January 9 said that the proposal put forward by Comrade Kim Il-Song to pull down the concrete wall, ensure free travel and open all doors between the North and the South is a wise and creative step.

It is an active and constructive proposal which will, no doubt, evoke widespread international repercussions and enjoy the positive support of the South Korean people, he said.

When I was paying my first visit to your country, your government put forward a proposal for large-scale phased arms reduction, he said, adding: It was a concrete and reasonable proposal to ease the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

This time, the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address put forward an active and epochol national salvation proposal to cope with the present international situation and the situation of the Korean peninsula.

The Workers' Party of Korea takes care of the people's life down to details and always breathes and acts with the masses, sharing sweets and bitters with them.

Chinese Daily Comments on 'Concrete Wall'

SK1301110490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Beijing January 12 (KCNA)—Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY on January 12 published an article entitled "Concrete Wall Cannot Bar Trend of National Reunification".

Noting that 240 kilometre long snake-shape concrete wall stretching from east To west south of the Military Demarcation Line of Korea divides the Korean territory into two, the daily wrote in detail about the width of the wall at its base and the upper part and it height and the distribution of pillboxes and iron gates through which tanks and armoured cars can pass.

Citing data, the daily pointed out that the South Korean puppet clique poured a huge amount of money into the building of the concrete wall, mobilized a large number of puppet army soldiers and people and imported an enormous quantity of cement for the project.

Explaining the background against which the South Korean puppets built the concrete wall, the daily said:

The South Korean authorities built it while intensifying repression of the people's struggle in an attempt to hold in check the advance towards peaceful reunification of Korea. The purpose was to keep Korea divided permanently.

Although the concrete wall blocked the road of free travel of the Korean people in the North and South, it could never break the Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification.

The proposal to pull down the concrete wall and realize free travel and complete opening between the North and the South put forward by President Kim Il-song in his

New Year address is warmly welcomed as it reflects the common desire of the entire Korean people, said the daily.

Article Urges Pulling Down of 'Concrete Wall'

SK1001131590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2116 GMT 6 Jan 90

[NODONG SINMUN 7 January special article: "Let Us Pull Down the Concrete Wall and Bring an End to National Shame"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, in his New Year address has taught: The concrete wall is the symbol of national division and North-South confrontation, and it is the shame of our nation to let this wall, which has no parallel in any country of the world, remain as it is.

How can we fully describe this tragedy and shame that our nation and our fellow countrymen suffer from because of this cursed concrete wall that divides in two one country and one nation, this reinforced concrete wall that stretches from East to West in the south side of the Military Demarcation Line! Because of this wall that is stuck in the back of the country like a knife, the greatest tragedy of all is forced upon the fellow countrymen of the North and the South: They are unable to visit each other, to know the whereabouts of their displaced families and relatives, or to exchange letters with each other.

It was this wall that stopped the journey to the North by the South Korean students and figures of all walks of life, who called for contacts, free visits, alliance with communism, and reunification through alliance with communism. This wall completely tied the feet of the patriotic students who dashed toward the Pyongyang festival pushing through the forest of bayonets. This wall forced the elderly Reverend Mun Ik-hwan, who had a lofty will for the fatherland reunification, and the young coed Yim Su-kyong to travel far around the globe to visit the Northern half of the Republic. This wall stopped the journey of the international peace march for peace and reunification of Korea, which was supposed to continue from Mt Paektu to Mt Halla.

How many patriots were victimized by this divisive wall, including those who are imprisoned for the so-called crime of visiting or adoring the Northern half of the Republic!

The concrete wall, which separates the North and the South far and wide—the North and the South between which one can visit anywhere on the same day because they are connected immediately by land, because the land is not large, and because the means of transportation have been developed—is literally the remnant of the South Korean ruling bunch's North-South confrontation policy, the token of the anticommunist and anti-North maneuvers, and is synonymous with grudge and tragedy.

We, the Korean nation is a proud and wise single nation with 5,000 years of history. There are few such proud nations as ours that has lived happily for so many years in one land, connecting one bloodline, with one language and unique good morals and manners. It is the tragedy of history and the shame of the nation that this Korean nation let the concrete wall, the likeness of which is not to be found in any other country, remain in the country in our times today. Today is the era of chajusong in which the countries and nations are the masters of their own destiny and the pioneers of their destiny, taking responsibility for it. Then why should our nation be unable to pull down the concrete wall built by the foreign forces and traitors and live submitting itself to the shame of being behind the times?

History advances, and the situation is changing. From the standpoint of national independence and in view of the worldwide trend of heading for independence, the concrete wall has no justification of existence at all. It should be eliminated from the sacred land of the fatherland at an early date.

The independent and peaceful reunification of the country and the reinforced concrete wall are far from compatible. The Korean people, who yearn for the liquidation of the tragedy of the divided nation and the realization of the fatherland reunification, should all launch themselves, whether they live in the North, South, or overseas, into the patriotic and nation-loving cause of eliminating the hated concrete wall, which is obstructing the reunification of the fatherland.

There is no barrier in the area north of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL]. If any, there is only the barbed wire which marks a boundary. We can remove it any time. If the barrier of division in the area south of the MDL, is removed there will exist no artificial barrier between the North and the South. And then, figures from all walks of life in the North and the South, including workers, peasants, youths, students, politicians, businessmen, men of culture, and religious men, can freely visit the North and the South, having contact with each other and working without restrictions, and, furthermore, the problem of totally opening all fields—political, economic, and cultural—between the North and the South can be easily solved.

It is clear that if the barrier between the North and the South is pulled down and, thus, free travel and total openness between them are realized, a favorable situation in which the entire nation can acheive the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by rejecting foreign forces' interference will be opened. Receiving the new great national salvation program for reunification elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address, the entire nation is now filled with firm faith in reunification and is burning with the firm determination to remove the barrier of division, to realize free travel and total openness between the North and the South through a nationwide struggle, and to finally achieve national reunification.

No one can block the flow of this general trend in which the North and the South of the country alike are trying to achieve reunification by putting an end to the division of the nation. The conscience of mankind is applauding and cheering this awesome march movement of the nation toward anti-U.S. independence and reunification.

There are those who are throwing a wet blanket over the nation's ardent desire to remove the barrier between the North and the South and to open the door of reunification. They are precisely a mere handful of the splittist forces that have colluded with foreign forces. The South Korean puppet rulers have answered the demands of the people at home and abroad for removing the barrier of division with the preposterous lie that there no concrete wall exists in the area of the South Korean side. It is a stern fact that has been known to the world that, in collusion with the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppets have built a magnificent reinforced concrete barrier wall 5 meters in height, 10 meters in width in the bottom, and 2 to 3 meters in width on the upper side. So, they lie when they say that there is no concrete wall. Such a lie cannot fool anyone. This is nothing but the revelation of their dirty intention to force the tragedy and disgrace of division upon the nation by building higher the barrier of division for a long time.

How can we tolerate the South Korean rulers who are not conscious of the country and the nation and who are impervious to digrace? Whether or not the persons in authority of South Korea will pull down the wall is a yardstick that can confirm the truthulness of openness, free travel, and reunification that they have clamored about.

The persons in authority of South Korea should not repeat empty talk, but should hurry to remove the reinforced concrete barrier as called for by the people without delay. Today, our nation is faced with the historic task of putting an end to the history of division—which started in the forties—in the nineties, at any cost. Nothing should hamper efforts in the face of this important problem which is closely related to the destiny of the nation.

When all Korean compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas rise up on a nationwide scale under the banner of reunification, the splittists will not be able to hold up unless they pull down the concrete wall by themselves.

SKNDF To 'Bend All Efforts' for Proposal

SK1201063290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0513 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—The Pyongyang mission of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" will bend all efforts for the realization of the new save-the-nation proposal put forward by the great President Kim Il-song to put an end to the tragedy of division which has been lasting more than 40 years and fling open the door of peaceful reunification which the entire fellow countrymen aspire after, declared representative of the mission Cho Il-min when interviewed by a KCNA reporter Thursday.

He stressed that the new proposition for national salvation put forward by the great president to pull down the barrier, ensure free travel and open all doors between the North and the South is an epochmaking save-the-nation proposal which has opened a phase of a turn on the way of reunification and an immortal militant banner powerfully inspiring the entire fellow countrymen to a grand march for reunification.

There is no more urgent and pressing task than national reunification for our nation, he said, and urged the South Korean authorities to no more repeat their anti-national, anachronistic act but respond to the new save-the-nation proposal by joining in the powerful flow of the nation toward peace and reunification.

The present authorities in the South should look the reality in the face and no more dampen the desire of the people to realize reunification through national reconciliation and unity but turn to the road of anti-outside struggle for independence and reunification.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we call on the people of all walks of life including students and figures of all circles to intensify the movement for reunification through alliance with communism and alliance with the North, deeply conscious of their very weighty mission and duty to history and the nation.

KCNA Cites Chongnyon's New Year Resolution

SK1201153090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo January 10 (KNS-KCNA)—A central meeting of activists was held in Tokyo on January 10 to more successfully carry out the tasks of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) for 1990 in hearty response to the teachings given by the great leader marshal Kim Il-song in the new year.

A message of greetings sent by marshal Kim Il-song to Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, on the new year 1990 was read out at the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, chairman Han Tok-su stressed that the officials of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan must vigorously turn out in the patriotic work in hearty response to the teachings given by the great leader in the new year.

He made clear the five-point tasks of Chongnyon this year which include the task to wage more powerful struggle for firmly safeguarding the legality of Chongnyon and defending all the rights of Koreans and put greater efforts to the work for national reunification in conformity with the requirement of the prevailing situation and the task to intensify the external work to strengthen friendship and solidarity with the Japanese people and create international circumstances favourable for national reunification and the patriotic work of Chongnyon.

A letter to marshal Kim Il-song was adopted at the meeting.

Young Mindan Koreans in Japan Hold Meeting

SK1201051290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 11 (KCNA)—Youth organisations under the South Korean Youth League in Japan (Hanchongdong) held gatherings to support democratisation and reunification titled "Fatherland Is One From Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla" in Tokyo and other parts of Japan, according to "Mindan [Korean Resident's Association in Japan]"-lining Koreans' newspaper MINJOK SIBO in Japan.

Through their speeches, documentary film show and performance of dramas the attendants encouraged the national democratic forces in South Korea and scathingly denounced anti-reunification and anti-national character of the No Tae-u military dictatorial "regime".

The attendants of a gathering in Tokyo headquarters of "Hanchongdong" said that the movement for national reunification active from 1988 made big progress with Yim Su-kyong's visit to the Northern half of Korea and called for winning the release of Yim Su-kyong through struggle.

North Journalist, Christian Leader Support Unity

SK1201055490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0522 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—Hyon Chun-kuk, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union, and Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Christians Federation, said that the South Korean authorities must look straight at the ever growing desire of the people for reunification and the aspiration and will of the fellow countrymen to achieve at any cost the historical cause of national reunification with the concerted efforts of the entire nation, and get rid of the splittist mentality.

In their statements issued to the press January 11 in support of a new save-the-nation proposal set forth by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address, they said that the proposal is a great programme for national salvation which indicates the most straight short-cut to the cause of national reunification.

Pointing out that the South Korean authorities shamelessly denied the existence of the concrete wall even today when it has been proved to be a stark reality, Hyon Chun-kuk said that this is a manifestation of their intention to continue committing splittist criminal acts, far from reflecting on their past.

A North-South top-level conference in which the heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties will take part should be convened without delay in order to pull down the barrier of division and realize free travel and a full-scale open door between the North and the South, Kang Yong-sop said, adding:

The South Korean authorities must come out to negotiations to pull down the barrier of division, ensure free travel and open all doors and show in practice what they have so far mouthed about "opening" and "reunification".

National Agricultural Conference Concludes

SK1301113390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1115 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The National Agricultural Conference which opened on January 10 closed today, successfully concluding its work.

Before the closing, the floor was taken by Kim Hwa-suk, chairman of the Management Board of the Rihyon cooperative farm, Sadong District Pyongyang municipality; Kang Chae-ik, chief of the Sinhung branch of the Taehongdan county combined farm; Song Kye-pin, leader of the stock-breeding team of the Nyongpo cooperative farm in Chongju County, and four others.

Noting that a rare bumper harvest was reaped last year in spite of an unfavourable weather under the agriculture-first policy of the party, the speakers vowed to successfully fulfil the plan of agricultural production assigned to their farms this year, too, by more firmly building up the material and technical foundations of the farms.

The national agricultural conference reviewed the brilliant achievements made in carrying into effect the socialist rural theses and successfully discussed the tasks to bring about a new turn in all domains of agricultural production. It powerfully demonstrated the superiority of our socialist agricultural system which has been steadily consolidated and developed under the leadership of the party and the validity of our party's agricultural policy and clearly showed the firm resolution of the entire agricultural working people to hasten the implementation of the rural theses.

The great leader President Kim Il-song met those present at the conference and gave highly important teachings which will serve as the guideline in agricultural production.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a congratulatory message to the conference greatly inspiring the agricultural working people who had effected a new upsurge in the socialist rural construction and agricultural production under the banner of the chuche idea and the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural.

The participants in the conference were unanimous in resolving to bring about a signal turn in agricultural production from the first year of the 1990s by making utmost use of the already laid material and technical foundations of agriculture and more thoroughly meeting the requirements of the farming method of chuche, in hearty response to the militant tasks set forth by President Kim Il-song in his New Year address and his recent teachings.

A letter of pledge was adopted at the conference.

Then, a concluding address was made.

Products Sent to Countryside

SK1401093290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0827 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 14 (KCNA)—Hearing news of the National Agricultural Conference, workers of industrial establishments in all parts of the country resolved to send to the countryside all kinds of machines, accessories and quantities of farming materials and offered them to the conference.

Workers in South Pyongan Province sent directly to the conference or offered to send to the countryside by mid-February 105,000 tons of urea fertilizer, 50,000 tons of hukbosan fertilizer, 80,000 tons of slaked lime, 20,000 tons of coal, 1,600 tons of high-pressure polyethylene for sheets, the Sangwon Cement Complex 56,000 tons of potassic fertilizer and the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex 15,000 tons of rolled steel and the Taean Heavy Machine Complex more than 340 large-sized electric motors and 30 odd transformers and the Kumsong General Tractor Works more than 170 tractors "Chollima" and "Pungnyon" and the Chollima Steel Complex, the Songjin Steel Complex, the Nampo Smelting Complex, the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the February 26 Factory, the October 30 Plant, the September 28 Factory, the North Pyongan and Hamgyong Provincial Forestry Administrations and other factories and enterprises and units across the country large quantities of rolled steel, farm machines, water pumps, all kinds of accessory parts and timber.

NODONG SINMUN on Conference

SK1501054590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0534 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Monday editorially emphasizes that the national agricultural conference held in the revolutionary capital of Pyongyang over January 10-13 was a historic conference of great importance in our socialist construction, particularly rural construction.

The editorial says:

It was a conference of proud victors who had demonstrated the advantages of the chuche-oriented socialist agricultural system deeply rooted in the rural communities of Korea and the great vitality of the socialist rural theses.

As a result of the advance under the rural theses, tremendous changes have been effected in our rural communities in the true sense of the word and an amazing progress made in the efforts to realise the great ideal— removing the gap between the working class and the peasantry, between industry and agriculture and between town and country.

Our people, particularly the agricultural working people, are now convinced through practical life that our socialist agricultural system is the best and most viable system embodying the desire and aspiration of the popular masses and that the rural theses represent a great programme of socialist rural construction which gives flawless answers to all questions in the final settlement of the rural question.

It was also a conference of general mobilization which powerfully roused the officials and working people engaged in agjiculture in the efforts to completely implement our party's programme of socialist rural construction and bring about a new leap in agricultural production.

The conference proposed vast tasks to attain the objectives set in the rural theses by 1992 and hit the 15 million ton target of grain production in a few years to come through a new upswing in agricultural production.

When the tasks are carried out, a decisive progress will be made in the endeavours of our people for the complete victory of socialism.

It was, indeed, a significant conference which demonstrated the wise leadership of our party that is brilliantly solving the rural question, the most difficult and complicated problem in socialist construction, without the slightest deviation from a firm chuche-based position, the position of the working class, and the high sense of revolutionary enthusiasm and militancy of our people including the agricultural working people who work hard as one man united around the party singleheartedly.

The editorial stresses the need to push on the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, in a thorough-going way and constantly improve the guidance and management of agriculture in conformity with the essential nature of the socialist system and other tasks and ways to bring about a great turn in socialist rural construction and agricultural production.

Workers Urged To Display Kangson Spirit

SK1001135090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2117 GMT 5 Jan 90

[NODONG SINMUN 6 January Editorial: "Let the Working Class Vigorously Accelerate the Forward Movement of the New Year With the Kangson Spirit, the Chollima Spirit"]

[Text] In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, unfolding the brilliant blueprint of the New Year, elucidated the task of effecting a new upsurge in socialist construction. To successfully fulfill this task, it is imperative for the working class to brilliantly play a leading role.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: This year, the fourth year of the Third 7-Year Plan, we should once again effect a great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction by vigorously waging a mass movement to increase production and to practice conservation to the maximum in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

Calling the entire party and all of the people to a new great upsurge, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught that all functionaries and the working people should live and work in the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit. The spirit that the working class in Kangson displayed in the postwar period is not only the spirit of unity that firmly trusts and follows only the party and the leader, and that struggles to implement the party's intent, jumping into fire and water, but is also the spirit of infinite loyality to the party and the leader. Making such a revolutionary spirit their firm faith, the working class in Kangson and Naggwon produced—creating out of nothing—steel materials and large-type water pumps when the party and the revolution demanded it.

Now that vast production potentiality has been provided to us today, when all functionaries and the working people work in the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit, unimaginable miracles can be created. To vigorously fan the flames of the new great upsurge with the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit, the working class, among others, should stand at the forefront. The working class is the leading class of the revolution and the core class upholding the party's cause. It is also the dignified ranks that created the spirit of Kangson and Naggwon. When the working class becomes an example in effecting a new great upsurge in the spirit of Kangson, upholding the intent of the party and the leader, and performs its mission as the standard bearer, the whole country can seethe with a great revolutionary upsurge.

The vast militant tasks that we are faced with in the New Year emphatically demand that the working class brilliantly realize the party's plan in the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit.

Success in fulfilling this year's task elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his address depends emphatically on how the working class is mobilized. A great upsurge of Chillima was effected in the postwar period, and it was effected because the working class received the good slogan which called for increased production and practice of conservation and because it unaimously rose up in the struggle to implement the slogan. Today, too, only when the working class holds aloft this slogan, following the party's intent, can the whole country seethe with the flames of great upsurge. If the working class seethes, the whole country will also seethe. When the working class vigorously advances, all fields of the national economy can more vigorously and actively move.

The major tasks elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year's address, including the task of increasing the production of electric power, coal, and steel materials, are precisely the rewarding struggle tasks that our working class should fulfill. Only when the working class, which is charged with the front of the main thrust, brilliantly fulfills its assigned militant task, reverberating the drumbeat of the revolution, can a revolutionary turn be effected in the overall development of the national economy.

For the working class to accelerate the forward movement of the New Year in the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit, it is important for it to have the firm determination and resolution to further glorify the proud tradition of having always upheld the party and the leader through practical struggle. The basis in the Kangson spirit and the Chollima spirit, is precisely infinite loyalty to the party and the leader. Loyalty to the party and the leader is the most fundamental trait of the working class of our country. Apart from this trait we cannot think of the honorable mission, duty, value, and dignity of our working class.

Whenever a heavy revolutionary duty has arisen in the past, our working class has created the tradition of upholding the party and the leader and has inherited it generation after generation by effecting a great revolutionary upsurge. It is a great pride of our party and people to have such a loyal working class. For our working class, which has received the New Year address of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, there is not a more rewarding task than to further glorify this tradition in the fulfillment of this year's task.

Today, our party appeals to our working class to advance at the head of the great socialist forward movement, holding aloft the banner of the revolution. This is an expression of the party and the leader's great confidence in and expectation from our heroic working class.

The entire working class should cherish deep in its heart the lofty intent and confidence of the party and the leader, should exert itself some more, and thus vigorously demonstrate once again the revolutionary traits of the Korean working class, which is loyal to the party and the leader. Thus, the working class should more vigorously demonstrate in the battle this year the indomitable spirit and the single-hearted unity of the Korean working class, which is creating epochal miracles and innovations, trusting and following only the party and the leader.

For the working class to vigorously accelerate this year's battle in the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit, it is imperative for it to highly display its revolution-mindedness and combat capability, without forgeting its class origin. The Kangson spirit is the resolute revolutionary spirit and the struggle spirit to continue the revolution to the end, while deeply recognizing the historic mission of the working class.

As time passes and the living conditions improve, our working class should not forget its class duty and mission, but should continue the revolution to the end. Thus, our working class should highly display the revolutionary mettle of advancing forward, while struggling. As success becomes greater in socialist construction and the enemies' maneuvers against socialism become more unscrupulous, our working class should more deeply cherish in its heart the correctness and lofitiness of our socialist cause and should vigorously struggle to further enhance the superiority of the socialist system of our country. At the same time, our working class should correctly see all social phenomena thoroughly from the class stand of the working class and should always live and work in a revolutionary and militant manner and with the attitude befitting the working class of the era of carrying out the revolution and struggle.

The working class should also display the spirit of Kangson and Naggwon in the practical struggle to implement the tasks assigned by the party policy of this year. Grasping and understanding well the correctness and truthfulness of our party's policy and highly displaying the spirit of absoluteness in its implementation are precisely the inherent traits of struggle of our working class. Recognizing the intent of the party, defined as an important task in socialist construction this year to vigorously wage a struggle for increasing production and for practicing conservation, displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, the entire working class should stand at the head of the struggle for increasing production and for practicing conservation with a high class awareness and, thus, should lift up the beacon of this struggle.

In particular, construction workers charged with major construction projects; the working class that is charged with the production of electric power, coal, and steel materials; the working people in the light industry sector; and all of members of the working class that is charged with the main fronts of socialist construction should fulfill their assigned militant tasks unconditionally and without fail as elucidated by the great leader in his New Year's address. For the working class to effect a great upsurge by displaying the Kangson spirit, the Chollima spirit, it is imperative for party organizations and functionaries to vigorously wage organizational and political work with high revolution-mindedness and combat capability.

Today, the zeal and spirit of our working class are extraordinarly high. The problem rests with how the party organizations and functionaries vigorously wage organizational and political work with high revolution-mindedness. All guidance functionaries in party organizations and administrative and eocnomic guidance organs should enhance revolution-mindedness by accelerating their own revolutionization. They should also go down to battle sites, including mine tunnels, to share joys and sorrows with the masses, should learn from the masses, and should lead them to a great upsurge.

Party organizations at all levels should concentrate great efforts on working with the working class and wage in a substantial manner the work of strengthening ideological indoctrination work and organizational work among it. In particular, party organizations at all levels should properly wage indoctrination work in the working class of new generations so that it can deeply master and actively learn from the example of the working class of Kangson and Naggwon in the past period. Thus, they should correctly lead the working class of the new generations so that it can uphold and follow the party's cause generation after generation.

Today, the party's trust in and expectation from the working class are very great. All of the working class should deeply cherish in its heart the honor and sense of responsibility as the standard bearer in effecting a new great revolutionary upsurge, and thus, should brilliantly perform its heavy duty in this year's battle.

Coal Miners Boost Production, Output in '90

SK1201151890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—The coal miners of Korea are boosting coal production in carrying out the national economic plan for the first year of the '90s.

The coal output in the first 10 days of the new year was 400,000 tons above that in the same period of December last year, said An Chu-kyong, director of the Coal Industry Guidance Bureau of the Mining Industry Commission.

Coal mines in South Pyongan Province including those in Kaechon and Tokchon districts have lifted the daily coal output 20,000 tons up on a daily average in December last year.

The Sunchon District Coal Mining Complex has raised the average daily output 4,000 tons by laying long-distance belt conveyers in the Sinchang, Chonsong youth and other coal mines. This greatly helps maintain steady production at the Sunchon Vinalon Complex, the Sunchon Thermal Power Plant, the Sincmon Cement Complex and other industrial establishments.

The Anju District Coal Mining Complex has increased cutting faces and introduced efficient cutting equipment to overfulfil its daily quotas 20 per cent.

The production quotas are being carried out at 126 percent at the coal mines under the Northern District General Bureau of Coal Industry through the improvement of technical equipment.

The June 13 Coal Mine, the Kogonwon Coal Mine and many other coal mines fulfil their production plans at 170 per cent at maximum by introducing a high-speed cutting method.

Steel Output Up, Toilers Work for 'Speed in 90s'

SK1201070690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—A meeting of employees of the Chollima Steel Complex was held to fulfil the tasks set forth in the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the decisions of the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The complex confronts this year the vast tasks to increase the output of steel, rolled steel, wire rope and drawn pipe 50 percent above last year and successfully build the December thermal power plant and a two million-ton capacity steel works.

The participants in the meeting vowed to vigorously wage a massive innovation drive for increased production and economy to carry out successfully these vast tasks, holding aloft the slogan "Let us make existing economic foundations pay off through increased production and economy!"

They resolved to fulfil their yearly national economic plan before October 10 and Third Seven-Year Plan before April 15, 1992 by supporting the party with steel in the course of developing new proud history of a great revolutionary upsurge in the '90s in the spirit and the mettle displayed by the workers there in recording a most brilliant chapter in the history of socialist construction by producing 120,000 tons of rolled steel at the blooming [as received] mill of 60,000 tons in rated capacity in the '50s.

The employees challenged the workers, technicians and office employees across the country to a socialist emulation for the creation of a new "speed in the '90s."

Brisk Progress Noted in Waterway Projects

SK1201152090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—Waterway projects are going on briskly in the rural communities of Korea to complete the irrigation on a high level.

The total length of the waterways is more than 400 kilometres.

The builders have brought into shape 65 percent of the total waterways projected in two months or so after starting their excavation.

The Chaenyong River-Changsu Lake waterway project was recently completed in South Hwanghae Province. The excavation of the West Sea Barrage-Sinchon-Kangnyong waterway is being accelerated at the last stage in the province. Its builders have brought into shape a 130 kilometre long waterway at the end of last year. They have carried out 90 percent of the structure project of over 600 objects.

The digging of 52 kilometre long irrigation channel has been completed, the second-stage project of the waterway between the West Sea Barrage and the tideland-turned fields in South Pyongan Province. Thus, the South Pyongan Provincial Irrigation Waterway watering Anju City and Mundok, Sukchon and Pyongwon counties has come to be linked with the waterway between the West Sea Barrage and the tideland-turned fields in South Pyongan Province supplying water to Chungsan and Onchon Counties.

North Hwanghae Province is these days fulfilling the daily quotas at 150-200 percent in the project for leading the water of the reservoir of the Namgang Power Station under construction to the Miru area in Singye.

In Pyongyang Municipality a waterway project to supply the water of the Taedong River to Yokpo District and Chunghwa and Sangwon Counties is under way. Now an 80 kilometre waterway has been dug and thousands of metres of open ditch and many structures have been completed.

When the large-scale waterway projects now in progress at different parts of the country are completed, they will be linked with the existing irrigation systems to bring into shape a large circular irrigation system and thus the water problem will be solved more satisfactorily and the grain production be radically boosted.

South Korea

North Korean Letters Accepted at Panmunjom

SK1301080090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—Five letters from the North Korean Government and Communist party were accepted by South Korean officials at the truce village of Panmunjom on Saturday.

The content of the letters, addressed to president No Tae-u, Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun and opposition leaders Kim Tae-chung, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil, is unknown.

It is thought the letters deal with a high-level inter-Korean conference proposed by North Korean leader Kim Il-song in his New Year's message.

The conference proposal, rejected out of hand as a scheme to avoid a summit with President No, calls for "heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties to remove the barrier of national division and materialize free travel."

Letters' Content Reported

SK1301100690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0947 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—North Korea proposed Saturday that a working-level contact be held early next month to prepare for the convocation of a conference of top leaders of government authorities and political parties of the two Koreas.

In letters addressed to five South Korean leaders, including President No Tae-u, North Korea proposed that each side send a five-member delegation to the preparatory cotact.

The other addressees were Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun and three opposition party leaders—Kim Tae-chung of the Party for Peace and Democracy, Kim Yong-sam of the Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Chong-pil of the New Democratic Republican Party. The South Korean government immediately showed a cool response to the North Korean proposal.

A national unification board spokesman dismissed the proposal as a "simple repetition of the old-fashioned formula for inter-Korean political conference which Pyongyang has insisted on over the past several decades."

"It is the (South Korean) Government's consistent position that major issues pending between the two Koreas should be settled through dialogue between responsibile authorities of the two sides," Choe Pyong-po, the spokesman, said.

Choe reminded that President No Tae-u has proposed that the two Koreas discuss free travel and full opening of the two Koreas through talks of highest authorities of the two Koreas.

"It cannot but be regarded that North Korea still has an uncertain political intention rather than a goodwill toward discussions of the free travel and opening, considering the fact that it ignores such a normal dialogue channel and sticks to conference of political parties," he said.

The North Korean letters were conveyed to the South at Panmunjom earlier saturday.

The letter, signed by the joint conference of government and political party representatives of North Korea, reiterated that South Korea remove "concrete walls" erected South of the Military Demarcation Line as an initial step to open the door to the reunification.

The South Korean Government had officially denied the existence of such concrete walls in the Demilitarized Zone as claimed by the North.

In a New Year's message, North Korean leader Kim Il-song proposed free travel between the two Koreas and urged South Korea remove the concrete walls.

The letter said that the historic steps of opening the door to reunification and removing the wall of division is a political problem which should be realized by responsible politicians of the two sides.

Official Sees 'Nothing New'

SK1301234990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] South Korea has virtually rejected the North's call for a meeting of political leaders and prime ministers in which President No Tae-u was included just as one of the five, urging the North to conduct dialogue through responsible authorities.

Choe Pyong-po, spokesman for the National Unification Board, yesterday said, "The letters, sent by the North yesterday, contain nothing new but a repetition of a call for South-North political conferences, a format which the North has favored for the past few decades."

"Our government's consistent position is that major issues pending between the South and the North could be solved through dialogue between the responsible authorities of both sides.

"In this context, President No Tae-u suggested in his press conference Wednesday that matters concerning free travel and complete opening proposed by the North Korean leader Kim Il-song on the New Year's Day be settled through talks between the top authorities of both sides," he noted.

He demanded the North's sincerity in concluding preliminary meetings for the high-level talks as soon as possible to realize the contacts between the prime ministers.

"We cannot but suspect that the North has political excuses for its proposal of free travel and an open-door policy if it attempts to bypass the existing official channels of dialogue and seek meetings of politicians (in the opposition camp)," he said.

Officials Dispatched To Receive Letter 16 Jan

SK1501095290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0946 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—National Assembly Speaker Kim Chae-sun informed North Korea by hot line Monday that two liaison officials will be dispatched Tuesday to the Neutral Nations' Supervisory Commission at the truce village of Panmunjom to accept a letter from the North.

Earlier in the day, Kim's North Korean counterpart, Yang Hyong-sop, had informed Kim that a liaison official would deliver a letter concerning the Inter-Parliamentary Union's general Assembly this fall to the Supervisory Commission on Tuesday [16 Jan]. [as received]

The site for the 84th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union has yet to be decided.

Government Provides Four-Step Disarmament Plan

SK1401114090 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 12 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] It has been learned that the government has provided a four-step disarmament plan to prepare for future North-South disarmament talks. This is because even though U.S. troops in Korea will not withdraw at once, the issue of withdrawing U.S. troops in Korea is expected to require full-scale discussions, including at least the issue of reducing ground troops during the nineties.

It was learned that the content of the four-step disarmament plan includes: the declaration of North-South inviolability; the conclusion of a peace agreement; establishing military trust; and turning the demilitarized zone into a peace zone. After realizing these three steps, the plan is to realize mutual military disarmament—such as a reduction of the armed forces in the late nineties.

It was learned on 11 January that, according to the Ministry of National Defense and related authorities, this plan will include the following: proposing disarmament talks led by the South side; dispatching North and South Korean attack units which are stationed along the armistice line to the rear and reducing them when U.S. troops in Korea are withdrawn; discontinuance of the development of nuclear weapons by North Korea and their joining the Nuclear Safety Agreement; and informing the other side in advance of military exercises and observing them.

It was learned that the Ministry of National Defense judged that changes of this kind in the military situation will take place regardless of how U.S. troops in Korea withdraw in the nineties, providing a decisively favorable easing of tensions and establishing of military trust between North and South Korea. Thus, it was learned that the Ministry of National Defense made plans to actively play its "card for withdrawing U.S. troops in Korea" in developing a North-South dialogue and easing military tensions.

In talks with reporters today, Yi Sang-hun, minister of National Defense, foresaw that in relation to this, "even though the pressing desire for reconciliation that is taking place in Eastern Europe is not taking place on the Korean peninsula, discussions being held between the two countries of Korea and the U.S. on reexamining the role of U.S. troops in Korea and the reduction of U.S. troops in Korea—which will be carried out in full-scale in the mid-nineties—will be of help in improving the relationship between the North and South, and in establishing military trust." He also revealed that "as early as last year, the Arms Control Office within the Ministry of National Defense had provided a yearly four-step disarmament plan to prepare for the easing of tensions between the North and South during the nineties."

On 16 January in Hawaii, the governments of Korea and the U.S. plan to hold working-level talks to discuss pending military issues between Korea and the U.S. before Secretary Cheney's visit to Korea. It is expected that Kwon Yong-hae, chief of the Office of Planning and Coordination of the Ministry of National Defense from the Korean side, and Carl Ford, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for East Asia and Pacific Affairs from the U.S. side, will participate in the talks.

Prospects Dim on Agreement on Sports Talks

SK1501074590 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0600 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] It has become almost impossible to form a single North-South team for the Asian games in Beijing.

The fifth working-level contact for the North-South sports talks was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom this morning. In order to promote an atmosphere for forming a single team and to know the true intention of the North Korean side, we again demanded that measures be taken to guarantee the implementation of the agreement and that the North Korean side withdraw a 10-point supplementary provision and a 4-point supplementary letter of agreement that accompanies the supplementary provision. In today's contact, the North Korean side demanded that the 10 points be drafted. In delivering its closing remarks, which it appears had been prepared in advance, the North Korean side was even trying to pass to the South Korean side the blame for the rupture of the talks. This made one suspicious whether or not the North Korean side has any intention to form a single North-South team.

In the sixth full-dress talks on 22 December last year, the North and South sides agreed on the 10 points, including the flag and song of the team, and, as a result, prospects for forming a single North-South team were bright. However, from the fourth working-level contact up until today, the North and South sides have failed to resolve narrow difference in views on the issue of holding games in the North and South and the issue of guaranteeing the implementation of the agreement. As a result, it appears that unless the North Korean side accepts our side's proposal in the seventh full-dress talks on 18 January, it will be almost impossible to form a single team.

DPRK Rejects 'Written Guarantee'

SK1501081890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0808 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Efforts to form a joint Korean team to the Beijing Asian games hit a snag in talks Monday when North Korea rejected a South Korean proposal for a written guarantee of the agreements reached in previous meetings.

In six rounds of main talks and four working-level contacts since last March, the two sides have agreed on 10 major points concerning the formation of a single team for September's ASIAD but failed to document the agreements. In the fifth working-level contact here

Monday, the South proposed that both sides document the agreements after reviewing them. The North refused, insisting that South Korea withdraw its demand for a guarantee of fulillment of the agreements.

In a prepared statement, North Korea said all responsibility for the breakdown in the talks must be taken by the South because it had refused the North's demand. The sudden change in attitude cast dark prospects over the seventh main meeting, scheduled to be held at the same place on Thursday.

In the fourth contact Jan. 10, North Korea agreed in most part with South Korea's proposal for a guarantee of compliance, but changed on Monday to demand all-out withdrawal of the proposal. South Korean delegates said after the talks that North Korea's rejection of a guarantee shows the North lacks sincerity and has no intention of abiding by the 10 agreements, which include the name, anthem and flag of the single team and how to select team members.

Yim Tae-sun, chief South Korean delegate, told reporters he was very disappointed but expects the North to show a new attitude in the seventh main meeting on Thursday. Yim said the meeting was a waste of time because North Korea demanded South Korea withdraw its proposal for the guarantee. The Northern delegates insisted that only the 10-point agreement be documented, Yim said.

Blasting the attempt to put the blame on the South, a bitter Yim said he doubted if the North Korean side had ever really had the intention of forming a single team. Chang Ung, chief North Korean delegate, said in a news conference afterward that South Korea had intentionally introduced a problem to break the talks.

Resumption of Red Cross Talks in Question

SK1501025590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0246 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea will not agree to resume discussions on reuniting separated relatives until North Korea drops its demand to stage "revolutionary operas" in Seoul during the reunions, the chief South Korean delegate to the Red Cross talks said Monday.

"It is our position not to attend the working-level contact on Jan. 22 proposed by the North unless they have changed their attitude on the content of performances to coincide with the reunion," Song Yong-tae said in an interview with YONHAP news agency.

"The exchange of visitors by the South and the North should be realized as the two authorities have promised to the whole nation, and could take place the moment the North changes its position on the performances."

The two Koreas agreed to reunite separated relatives last December at Red Cross talks, but the project was foiled at the last minute because of a dispute over performances by art troupes accompanying the visitors.

North Korea insisted it be allowed to stage operas it claims were written by North Korean leader Kim Il-song, and South Korea refused on the ground that the operas inspire communist thinking.

"North Korea's persistence in the demand is against the Red Cross principle, the purpose of exchanging relatives and art troupes and earlier agreements on the exchange," Song said.

Song admitted that there are calls in the South to accept North Korea's demand but said: "The majority of people oppose that opinion and the agreement between both sides should be respected once it is reached to build confidence in each other.

"The revolutionary operas could be replaced by other forms of entertainment if the North has a genuine will to materialize the exchange. During the first exchange of relatives and art troupes, which took place in 1985, they performed traditional Korean songs and dances, and they can do it again this time."

Song said plenary Red Cross talks between the two Koreas should resume at an early date, as Seoul has demanded. The North claims the exchange of relatives and performers should precede the reopening of the main Red Cross talks. In a forecast for the year, Song had a mixed opinion on the development of dialogue on the Korean peninsula.

"Judging from North Korean president Kim's new year message, there are both positive and negative elements. Kim said the North will push for inter-Korean dialogue through a variety of channels, and touched on talks between authorities and parliaments, but he did not refer to the Red Cross talks directly, which is urgently needed," Song said.

In particular, Song wondered why Kim did not mention separated relatives when he suggested inter-Korean free travel, listing only workers, farmers, students, politicians, businessmen and those in cultural and religious circles.

Unification Minister To Visit Europe, Thailand

SK1101023690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] National Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku will depart for Thailand today for a three-day unofficial visit.

He will then fly to Bonn for a one-week stay at the invitation of former West German chancellor Willy Brandt.

The professor-turned minister will attend a conference on international cooperation in Bon and meet West

German government leaders to exchange views on the reunification of the two Germanys and also of the Korean Peninsula.

He will also trip [as published] to Berlin to get an on-the-spot impression of the breakdown of the Berlin Wall.

Yi is scheduled to return home on Jan 22.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Envoy's Visit to Kwangju

SK1301035390 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 11 Jan 90 p 6

[Editorial: "The United States Cannot Yet Shake Hands with 'Kwangju'—Reconciliation Is Possible When an Apology for Its 'Indirect Assistance' to the Murder Is Made"]

[Text] Ambassador Donald Gregg, who had barely managed to assume his post in Korea after getting through turns and twists in the course of endorsement in the U.S. Congress, recently visited Kwangju, met Kwangju citizens, and discussed the matter of reopening the American Cultural Center. Gregg was assigned to Korea after experiencing difficulty in Congress because of suspicion of his involvement in the U.S. CIA's assistance to Nicaraguan rebels. Having acted cautiously for several months, he seems to have visited Kwangju to gradually solve the "Kwangju" problem, the most sensitive part of Korea-U.S. historical relations.

Ambassador Gregg repeated to the citizens whom he met in Kwangju and to reporters the "explanation" that U.S. Government officials have repeated in a stereotyped manner over the past few years. The gist of his explanation is as follows: "The United States is far from responsible for the tragedy of Kwangju in May 1980. I have come to Kwangju just to express sympathy and condolences to Kwangju citizens who underwent tragedy. The United States has never done anything that requires a statement of apology for the tragedy. The paratroops who mercilessly suppressed Kwangju citizens were not under the operational control of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command. Also, operational control over the 20th Division was transferred to the Korean Armed Forces in December 1979. With a stronger influence, the United States could have prevented such an incident."

He reportedly added that "I am sorry to be visiting here only now despite the fact that a long time has passed since I was assigned to Korea." This is, indeed, a regrettable thing both for the United States and for him, a professional diplomat. His "diplomacy of smile" may have only added to antagonisms in Kwangju where more than 2,000 innocent citizens were killed or wounded and where the injury of tragedy has not been healed for 10 years.

Ambassador Gregg is an official U.S. envoy who came to Korea with the President's credentials. Therefore, it is true that what he said in Kwangju is the official stand of the U.S. Government toward the "Kwangju tragedy." Through Ambassador Gregg's behaviors and remarks, we have seen reconfirmed the immorality, illogic nature, and insincerity of the United States.

The reason for this is as follows: When the paratroops and the 20th Division perpetrated the murder in Kwangju in May 1980, Carter was U.S. President, Gleysteen assumed the position of the U.S. ambassador in Korea, and Wickham served as the commander of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command. Experts analyze that fearful of his defeat in the next election—as U.S. dominant power over the Third World was weakening as a result of revolutions in Iran and Nicaragua—Carter, who advocated a "human rights diplomacy," implemented the policy of "subduing" a mass revolution or a uprising in South Korea where the United States was enjoying tremendous vested rights. In addition, Ambassador Gregg's excuse that the United States held no responsibility for the Kwangju incident—because the paratroops unit and the 20th Division were out of the operational control of the combined forces command at that time—and such an explanation as in a "statement of the U.S. Government" delivered to the special Kwangju Committee of the National Assembly last June, are flatly contradictory to Gleysteen's remarks. In his interview with the Japanese daily "ASAHI SHIMBUN" in May 1985, Gleysteen said that "There was an agreement upon the mobilization of the Korean Army to Kwangju to subdue the riot, but the Korean side executed an armed suppression in defiance of the U.S. Government's repeated warnings and demands for self-restraint."

At a news conference in August 1980, Wickham, who returned to his country "for consultation about his work" 3 days before the Kwangju murder took place—thus, arousing suspicions—stated that "the United States will support the Chon Tu-hwan regime even though it enforces the policy of political suppression and fails to enjoy the people's support. The Korean people, like lemmings, will follow whoever may become their leader."

Of late, not only Ambassador Gregg, but also high-ranking U.S. officials are shifting all responsibilities for the Kwangju murder onto Chon Tu-hwan, strongly denying the historical fact about the indirect assistance to the murder. In its statement immediately after Chon testified before the National Assembly on 31 December last year, the U.S. Embassy in Korea contended that "the United States demanded that the Korean Government settle the Kwangju incident through dialogue and continue to push ahead with democratization." This was only the "lip service" of the Carter administration. It is a stark fact that the United States defended the Chon Tu-hwan regime which usurped power after the murder in Kwangju.

This coming spring marks the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju resistance. Up to the present, Korean students and the masses, who have confirmed the U.S. support for or its indirect assistance to the murder in Kwangju through concrete information or material, have fiercely denounced the United States, occupying American cultural centers and setting fires at them. Having supported and defended the Chon Tu-hwan regime without a word of apology, however, the United States is rendering tangible or intangible support to the current forces in power which are no different from the previous regime in terms of an undemocratic nature. The U.S. support for President No Tae-u's regime, who is also blamed for being responsible for the "Kwangju tragedy," is no doubt aimed at its political, economic, military, and cultural interests.

The Kwangju resistance in May 1980 was a grim struggle to establish a democratic political system and an event which ignited the movement for national reunification in the eighties. The spirit of the resistance is flaming up as a torch of democratization and independence in the nineties. The United States must be clearly aware of this. Just because the ambassador visited Kwangju and met and held dialogue in smiles with dissidents, it does not follow that "Kwangju" will shake hands with the United States. It will not be until the U.S. Government openly apologizes for its wrongdoing of indirectly assisting the murder in Kwangju, stops its protection of undemocratic forces in power, and refrains from encroaching upon the independence of the Korean people, that "Kwangju" and the Korean masses will establish reciprocal and equal relations with the United States.

U.S. Denies Ambassador-Level DPRK Contacts

SK1501045990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0314 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Washington, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—A report that the United States has had ambassador-level contacts with North Korea is untrue, a ranking U.S. State Department official said Sunday.

The official, refusing to be identified, said the U.S. Government has a policy of rejecting North Korean demands to upgrade the contacts as long as Pyongyang refuses to take steps to improve confidence, including dialogue between South and North Korea. There have been a series of known counselor-level contacts. American and North Korean counselors have met in Beijing on six occasions since a U.S. appeasement policy was launched in October 1988.

Japan's ASAHI SHIMBUN on Saturday quoted an unnamed U.S. expert on international strategic affairs as saying that the two nations have had ambassador-level contacts in Beijing and the United Nations with China's agreement.

The source said the report of contacts in Beijing and the United Nations was "untrue," but agreed diplomats from the two countries have been able to meet at "neutral venues."

An official at the South Korean Embassy here denied the possibility of contacts between diplomats from the United States and North Korea except for the cases in Beijing, saying Seoul and Washington are closely consulting on U.S. policy toward North Korea.

ASAHI's expert, who it said will visit North Korea as a guest of the government next month, was quoted as saying Pyongyang's opening appears to be just a matter of time.

Paper on U.S.-DPRK Contacts

SK1401001990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—The United Stats has had ambassador-level contact with North Korea under China's agreement, the ASAHI SHIMBUN here reported Saturday, quoting a U.S. expert on international strategic affairs.

The informal contacts took place in Beijing and the United Nations, the newspaper said.

Councilors of the two countries were said to have met in Beijing on six different occasions.

North Korea which wishes to improve relations with the United States has demanded that the two countries upgrade their relations to ambassador-level.

The U.S. expert, who will visit North Korea next month at its invitation, said that Pyongyang's opening of its doors appears to be a matter of time, the newspaper said.

He noted that North Korea has shown a flexible attitude since the visit to Pyongyang by Gaston Sigur, former assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, the daily said.

Seoul Dailies View 'Team Spirit' Scale-Down

SK1501123290

[Editorial Report] On 12 January, HANGUK ILBO and SEOUL SINMUN, two of Seoul's vernacular papers, carried an editorial on the scale down of the "Team Spirit" exercise.

HANGUK ILBO, on page 2 of its 12 January edition, carried an 800-word editorial entitled "Scaled-Down 'Team Spirit' Exercise". This editorial, first, notes the scale down of this exercise for the first time since it started in 1976, and North Korea's consistent use of this exercise as a pretext for suspending North-South dialogue. Referring to President No Tae-u's reference to the scale down of this exercise to "make sincere efforts to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula," the editorial expressed interest in how North Korea would react to the scale down, saying: "However, the trend of the world is radically changing to the extent that even the issue of 'North-South arms reduction' has been raised. If it has no ability to isolate itself to the end after rejecting this worldwide trend, North Korea should accept our proposal that each side observe the other side's exercises and should join in our efforts to seek ways for North-South arms control based upon trust." Also saying that the scale-down will exercise influence upon the situation on the Korean peninsula and the Soviet Union's moves in

Northeast Asia and the Pacific, the editorial concludes: "Because preconditions for arms reduction of any sort are mutual trust, the scale-down of this exercise will serve as an opportunity for not only North Korea but also the Soviet Union to do their own share of work in promoting mutual trust."

SEOUL SINMUN, on page 2 of its 12 January edition, carried an 800-word editorial entitled "Meaning of the Scale Down of the 'Team Spirit' Exercise."

Noting that this measure can be considered to be "forward-looking efforts to ensure progress in North-South relations, this editorial described in detail how war exercises have been conducted in North and South Korea. It says that "the North-South dialogue of the nineties must start with efforts to hold political and military talks to hold negotiations for arms reduction—a necessity to prevent the recurrence of war, to alleviate tension, and to build a peace structure." It notes a need to "turn the arms race on the Korean peninsula into an arms reduction race;" the editorial then concludes: "If military expenditures necessary for the arms race were to be used in improving the standard of living and social welfare for the fellow countrymen, this would greatly contribute to recovering a national community and in overcoming division. We expect a response from the North Korean side."

Abolition of Shipbuilding Subsidies Viewed

SK1501091090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0835 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Global abolition of government subsidies for shipbuilders topped the agenda Monday in talks here between South Korea and the United States.

A Trade and Industry Ministry spokesman said the two sides discussed every type of subsidy for shipbuilders in many countries, not just Korea, and the U.S. side asked Korea to back its demand for abolition or reduction of all subsidies at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) meeting in Paris on Feb. 12.

Korea explained that it gives the least assistance to its shipbuilders on a deferred payment basis under an OECD guideline and that it does not offer direct subsidies like West European countries, the spokesman added.

The Government and shipbuilding industries of the United States filed a complaint last June with Korea, West Germany, Japan and Norway under the U.S. Trade Act's "Super 301" clause, charging these nations with giving excessive subsidies to their industries.

The U.S. shipbuilding industry withdrew its complaint after concluding that every country with competitiveness in the global market offers almost the same degree of subsidization to its shipbuilders and decided to bring the matter up at the OECD talks. Korea and the United States are conducting both bilateral and multilateral negotiations through the OECD on long-pending issues.

Hungarian Envoy Comments on South, North Korea

SK1401000890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Jan 90 p 2, 5

[From the "Meet the Ambassador" column with staff reporter Kim Hyeh-won]

[Text] Hungarian Ambassador to Seoul Sandor Etre said North Koreans will someday understand that Seoul-Budapest relations are not against their interests.

In a new year interview with THE KOREA HERALD, Amb. Etre, who is the only envoy from a socialist nation residing in Seoul, said North Korea should first of all recognize the existence of South Korea for effective dialogue with South Koreans.

The decision of many socialist countries including Hungary to set up diplomatic ties with the South could help the North Koreans realize the realities, the ambassador said.

He said the current political and economic changes under way in East European countries stemmed from their realization that economic modernization and political democratization are impossible under a one-party authoritarian system.

Hungarians thus initiated reforms, realizing that their country would finally be left behind others if it failed in the economic modernization and political democratization of the country, said the envoy.

Other countries can try to form an international environment favorable for the dialogue, he said.

Following are excerpts of an interview with the envoy.

Question: How do you assess the bilateral relations between our two countries in 1989? What do you predict will come of them in the new year and in the 1990s?

Answer: Last year, I can say that a foundation was laid in Korean-Hungarian relations. After the two established diplomatic relations on Feb. 1, they concluded various agreements including those on investment protection, avoidance of dual taxation, trade and economic cooperation and cooperation in cultural and scientific fields.

These agreements, I think, have contributed to formation of the legal, social and economic foundation for further development of ties between the two countries.

President No Tae-u's visit to Budapest provided important momentum to further develop the relationship into one of partnership, enabling them to lead others in opening the new age of detente.

During the 1990s, the two should try to make their relations a model for East-West cooperation.

Q: How do you evaluate President No's recent visit to Budapest?

A: It is not very often in international relations that the head of state of a country visits another one less than one year after the two countries normalized ties.

To my knowledge, it was the second time in Korean history (President Syngman Rhee visited the United States in 1949 less than one year after Korea and the United States set up relations) and unprecedented in Hungarian history.

During their meetings, President No and Hungarian leaders reached agreement on every issue and therefore, contributed to creating a favorable mood for promotion of cooperative ties between the two countries.

They also shared the view that the new relations between them correspond to the interests of their people and contribute to reconciliation between the East and the West.

The Hungarian leaders, especially, appreciated the Seoul government's efforts for peace and unification on the Korean Peninsula and expressed willingness to lend their hands, if necessary, for negotiations with North Koreans.

I believe the Korean-Hungarian relations inspired other socialist countries.

Q: What do you think the two countries should do to deepen the relations?

A: Related ministries of Korea and Hungary are now seeking ways to substantiate various agreements between the two governments.

Twenty-seven Korean businessmen had talks with their counterparts in Budapest when they accompanied President No. The meeting was in fact the first step for private cooperation between Koreans and Hungarians.

Since then, negotiations have been held between businessmen to materialize various projects. Samsung and Daewoo of Korea are discussing joint ventures with Hungarian companies.

Korean businesses are also invited to compete with other foreign enterprises for participating in plans to modernize telecommunications in Hungary and to build the infrastructure for an international trade fair to be jointly hosted by Austria and Hungary in 1995. The Korea Science Foundation also signed an agreement on joint research with Hungarians in various fields of basic science.

I believe we need to further develop these fields to substantiate Korean-Hungarian relations.

Q: What is your assessment of the recent changes sweeping East European countries?

A: The changes now under way in East European countries including Hungary, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia stemmed from their realization that economic modernization is impossible under a one-party authoritarian system. They also realized that it's an illusion to build a socialist country on the Stalinist model.

Now they have embarked on developing political democracy while taking measures to set up a capitalist market economy in their countries.

Hungary was the pioneer in the efforts. Hungarian leaders acknowledged the limits of a socialist country and initiated reforms earlier than others. They knew that Hungary would finally be left behind others in the world if it failed to democratize and economically modernize the country.

Hungary also pursues equal and friendly relations with capitalist countries. it established diplomatic relations with Korea and Israel and reinstated consular relations with Chile last year. negotiations are also under way to normalize ties with the Vatican.

I believe the changes in East European countries will eventually contribute to the establishment of peace throughout the world.

Q: Many Koreans expect the development in East-West German relations to be helpful in improving their relations with North Korea. What is your view?

A: We are very much sympathetic with Koreans' desire for reunification. It is true that there are many differences between East-West German relations and South-North Korean relations. However, I believe it is inevitable that an artificial wall like the Berlin Wall collapses in the long run. I expect the wall between South and North Korea to eventually be torn down with the same logic.

The political changes in East Europe will indirectly affect the Korean Peninsula, rather than directly. The East German case clearly shows us that those who pursue cooperation and reconciliation eventually win over those who want confrontation.

When and how peace and reunification are realized on the peninsula is up to the Korean people. They should settle the problem through dialogue. No others can interfere with the matter. What foreigners can do is only try to form an international environment favorable for inter-Korean dialog.

Q: Is there any change in North Korean-Hungarian relations?

A: North Korea downgraded relations to a charge d'affaires level after Hungary established diplomatic relations with South Korea. But trade between Pyongyang and Budapest has continued as usual. Except trade, in fact, relations between Hungary and North Korea re not as they used to be.

I believe North Koreans will understand someday that Hungary's new relations with South Korea are not against their interests. North Korea should acknowledge the realities. They should recognize the fact that South Korea exists on the southern side of the peninsula.

They can effectively work for reunification only when they acknowledge the reality.

The North Koreans should also remember that it requires a corresponding effort to become a friend of somebody. You cannot always ask your friend to support your position only.

Q: There were reports that Hungarians expressed disappointment over the slow pace of economic cooperation between Korea and Hungary.

A: It is true that several Hungarians expressed hope for faster development on some issues. But President No's visit to Budapest last fall gave impetus to the relations. We want more Korean businessmen to engage in joint investment and joint ventures in Hungary with heir Hungarian counterparts.

Q: Tell me about your life in Seoul during the last one year.

A: I was too busy. I expect the relations between Korea and Hungary to be put on the right track soon. Then, I'd like to visit the countryside to understand Korea more deeply.

Only when I fully understand Korea and Koreans, I can make effective suggestions to my government for further cooperation between the two countries.

Mission To Discuss Ties With CSSR To Leave 14 Jan

SK1301054290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0518 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—A diplomatic mission leaves for Prague on Sunday to discuss opening diplomatic ties between South Korea and Czechoslovakia, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The Czech Government Thursday invited Korea through a third nation to send a team of diplomats to visit the East European nation "at an early date" to consult on establishing diplomatic relations, the ministry said. The delegation to the first government-to-government talks between South Korea and Czechoslovakia will be headed by ambassador-at-large Hong Sun-yong, ministry officials said.

Last year, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. and the Czech Chamber of Commerce agreed to open trade offices in each other's capital to expand economic cooperation. The offices are scheduled to open in April.

The Bulgarian Government has suggested it is willing to discuss opening diplomatic ties and formal relations with the two East Bloc nations are likely to materialize as early as in the first half of this year, the officials said. It is also likely that Korea will open diplomatic ties with East Germany and Romania this year.

South Korea has already established diplomatic relations with Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia in a diplomatic outreach called "Northern policy" that was initiated at around the time of the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988.

East Bloc Visitors Increase by 84% in 1989

SK1601025490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jan 90 p 3

[Text] A total of 45,351 nationals of East-bloc countries visited Korea in 1989, an 84 percent rise over the 24,586 arrivals in 1988, the Justice Ministry statistics showed yesterday.

Last year, 19,092 Chinese visited Korea, representing 42 percent of the total arrivals from the socialist countries.

Next to Chinese, Soviets numbered 10,500 (23 percent), according to the tally.

Chinese visitors increased by 135 percent last year over the 8,000 in 1988. Chinese have topped the list since 1985.

Till 1987, only 100-200 Soviets had visited Korea, which has no diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union.

But the number soared to over 2,000 in 1988, apparently spurred by the staging of the Olympic Games in Seoul, and it shot up again almost five times last year.

According to the ministry statistics, the onrush of socialist nationals began in earnest from 1985 when the number hit 6,300.

In 1986 when the Asian Games was held in Seoul, the number rose by 23 percent to 7,700. The arrivals also increased by 50 percent to 11,587 in 1987 and by 112 percent to 24,586 in 1988.

The ministry officials attributed the steady rise of the arrivals from Communist countries to the Korean government's "nordpolitik" and liberalization in East European countries triggered by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroyka."

Successful staging of the Seoul Olympiad helped Korea improve its image in socialist countries and its apparently led to the rise of the visitors to Korea, the officials said.

Simplification of visa-issuing and other immigration procedures was cited as another reason for the rise of the visitors from Communist countries.

At present, those who want to visit Korea can get their visas easily at Korean diplomatic mission in their countries. Only those who want to stay here for 30 days or longer are required to undergo visa screening by the Korean Foreign Ministry.

Until 1988, sports officials and athletes represented the largest portion of the visitors from the East-bloc countries.

But the situation has changed since last year. Sports personnel occupied only 1-2 percent of the total visitors, while tourists took up the largest portion (18 percent); followed by those who visit here for business purposes (6 percent).

The ministry officials viewed that the number of visitors from socialist countries will increase considerably this year in step with Korea's projected establishment of diplomatic ties with them.

Japanese Envoy Urges Closer Seoul-Tokyo Ties

SK0101043490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 90 p 4

[Interview with Japanese Ambassador Shinichi Yanai by staff reporter Kim Hyen-won; first in a series of interviews with foreign envoys accredited to Seoul—date, place not given]

[Text] Japanese Ambassador to Seoul Shinichi Yanai emphasized closer cooperation between Korea and his country to minimize the degree of uncertainty which might take place in the course of changes now sweeping the world.

In a new year interview with The Korea Herald, the ambassador also said his country will further cooperate with like-minded countries to create a favorable environment for lessening tensions still existing on the Korean Peninsula.

He said the changes now evident in Eastern Europe are yet to emerge in Asia but expected socialist nations in the region to adjust to the changing world in due course.

At the same time, he said, people should also remember that it was the unity of the Western powers and deterrence they preserved which brought about relaxation in East-West relations.

The Japanese envoy said that countries in the region of Asia and the Pacific would remain wary about the Soviet claim to be a Pacific power as long as it is engaged in a massive military build-up in the Far East.

Following is a summary of the interview with Amb. Yanai, who is to leave Seoul soon, completing his over two-and-a-half year service.

Question: What is your evaluation of the changes the world is now undergoing?

Answer: The situation now unfolding with remarkable sped in Eastern Europe is a reminder how universal values to which both Korea and Japan committed themselves—freedom democracy and market principle—served as driving forces in bringing about an unprecedented transformation in the postwar East-West relations. We are proud of the fact that our two nations are firmly attached to the principles which represent the hope and aspiration of mankind.

However, the changes how evident in Eastern Europe are yet to emerge in this part of the world. In due course, socialist nations in Asia will have to adjust to the changing world. The search for a new order must be a painful one often accompanied by instability and uncertainty. It is therefore of utmost importance that both Korea and Japan cooperate in order to minimize the degree of such uncertainty which might take place in the course of transformation.

Of course, peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula are the most important issues confronting Asia. While Japan fully supports the strenuous efforts so far made by the Republic of Korea for fruitful dialogue with north Korea, Japan will further cooperate with like-minded countries to create a favorable environment in order to lessen the tensions still existing on this peninsula. How to bring China into a framework of Asian cooperation looking toward the 21st century is also an important question. In the 1990s both Korea and Japan will play a pivotal role in promoting progress in the Asian region. It is indeed significant that we are entering a new stage of partnership at a time when Asia-Pacific countries are assuming an important role in the world. I look forward to the day when our expanding scope of partnership will bear rich fruit for a more prosperous and stable Asia.

Q: How do you assess the bilatearl relations between our two countries in 1989? What do you predict for them in the new year and in the 1990s?

A: A year 1990 will mark the 25th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between our two countries. We have come a long way to bring about the excellent relations now existing between us. We have many channels of constant dialogue and consultation in all matters of interest to both of us.

What is amazing is the number of Korean and Japanese people visiting each other. In 1989 the number surpassed 2 million for the first time in history, which definitely contributed to deepening the mutual understanding of our two nations.

Q: President No Tae-u had to postpone a trip to Japan twice in 1989. Is there any plan between your government and Seoul to realize his visit in 1990?

A: President No Tae-u's visit to Japan is considered a top priority of the Japanese government. We would like to welcome President No at the earliest possible date and at a time which is mutually suitable, but specific timing of the visit is not yet decided.

Q: There was a report that Emperor Akihito would visit Seoul in 1990.

A: As regards the visit of the emperor to the Republic of Korea, what I can say at this time is that nothing is decided.

Q: Korea has suffered chronic trade deficits with Japan although they are on the decrease. What do you think the Seoul and Tokyo governments can do to further rectify the imbalance?

A: It is true that Korea still registers large trade deficits with Japan. This is due to structural differences existing between our two economies. However, the deficit decreased from $5.4 billion in 1986 to $3.9 billion in

1988. It is expected that the deficit in 1989 is somewhat around the same level as the previous year.

In spite of the sluggish export performance in general, and in spite of an adverse exchange rate in particular, Korea's exports to Japan in 1989 increased by 13.5 percent (January to October), while imports from Japan increased by 10.7 percent. As structural adjustment of the Japanese economy is expected to continue into 1990, and given the recent trend now increasingly evident for a Korea-Japan horizontal division of labor which Korean enterpreneurs are vigorously carrying forward in order to secure greater access to the huge market of Japan, I am confident that we are on the right track toward solving the problem of chronic trade difficits in the near future.

Q: What progress in either formal or informal contacts between Japan and north Korea is begin made?

A: Japan wishes to improve relations with north Korea taking into account the situation prevailing on the Korean Peninsula. We made it clear to the north that Japan is ready to discuss any issues without preconditions in the hope that our willingness to enter into a meaningful dialogue will be responded to in the same manner. However, no positive response has been received so far.

Q: Many people claim that the approaches of the Soviet Union and China toward south Korea are mainly motivated from their hope to use Korea as a card to induce more Japanese participation in their programs for economic development. Please assess the theory.

A: I am not in a position to speculate on the intention of the Soviet Union and China. Korea has greatly enhanced its standing in the community of nations because of remarkable politico-economic development in recent years. The approach of these big powers toward Korea is, in itself, an acknowledgement of the enhanced status of Korea in international affairs.

Q: The Soviet Union has made explicit its intention to become a Pacific power. What is the policy of the Tokyo government in response to such a movement?

A: In my personal view, the foreign policy of the Soviet Union toward the Asia-Pacific region was given only secondary importance for many years. With the exception of their military presence, the Soviet Union failed to exert political and economic influences in this part of the world.

Mikhail Gorbachev's speech in Vladivostok and Kransnoyarsk clearly indicated his intention to vigorously pursue an expanded influence through a charm offensive in Asia and the Pacific.

Vietnamese Economic Team Pays Week-Long Visit

SK0601030490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] A six-member Vietnamese economic mission arrives in Seoul tomorrow [7 Jan] for a week-long visit to observe Korea's financing and banking systems.

While here, the mission, comprising ranking bank officials, will visit the Bank of Korea and major banks which deals with foreign exchanges to discuss measures to promote cooperation in that field.

Meanwhile, many domestic firms will participate in an international fair to be held in Vietnam in April, industry sources said.

Fisheries Talks With France Held 8-10 Jan

SK0601054790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0435 GMT 6 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea and France will hold fisheries talk in Paris on Jan. 8-10, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said Saturday. The agenda will include the 1990 fishing quota in French Polynesian waters and licencing fees. Last year, 139 Korean fishing boats were allowed to catch 6,300 tons of fish for a fee of 3.12 million francs (538,000 U.S. dollars).

Yi Hui-su, vice commissioner of the Office of Fishery, will head the Korean fishery officials and businessmen to the meeting while Paul Maruani, deputy director of economic-financial affairs of the Foreign Ministry, will lead the French delegation.

Burma

Thai Logging Permits Reduced To Save Forests

BK1501045090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 90 p 26

[Text] Burma has reduced the size of its permits to Thai logging companies to 1,000 metric tons of logs per month, sharply below the 5,000 metric tons they were previously allowed to cut each month.

The Burmese authorities have also decided against giving any new concessions to foreign companies wanting to cut trees in the country.

The move is intended to conserve Burma's rich hardwood forests to prevent over-cutting and a timber surplus arising in Bangkok, besides overcoming problems with timber traders along the Thai border.

Maj-Gen Chit Swe, Minister of Livestock breeding & Fisheries and Agriculture of Burma, said the decision prompted eight delegations from Thai companies which hold concessions from Burma to meet him last week in Rangoon.

They wanted to know whether Burma was considering revoking the logging concessions granted to Thai companies or to change its policy.

He said Burma was willing to grant long-term concessions to Thai companies but he understood that Thai timber companies were not prepared for this, they wanted short-term rights only. Also problems have occurred in border areas when timber companies have not engaged directly in logging themselves, some have passed their rights to sub-contractors to engage in logging.

But the sub-contract companies do not operate directly and this was causing problems in the border areas where there are also long-running insurgency problems.

The main one is that illegal timber traders are operating in concession areas and setting up illegal saw mills there. He said the Burmese opposed these activities and had destroyed up to six illegal saw mills in one week.

So far Rangoon has not cancelled any concession granted to Thai companies but it has confirmed that Burma will not give any new concessions to companies in future.

Currently some 40 Thai companies have concessions for logging work in the Burmese forests bordering northern Thailand to the Laos side.

Commenting on the actions of the Greenpeace group which wants Burma to cancel forest concessions to Thai companies, Maj-Gen Chit said the group operated worldwide to protect the environment, but it was not easy to accuse only one country of causing environmental destruction.

He said Burma wants to plant more forests rather than cut them and so it had decided to reduce permission for Thai firms to fell trees from 5,000 tons a month to 1,000 tons beginning this month.

Regarding the proposal to sell used passenger buses owned by the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority for timber from Burma, he said he had discussed the matter with Thai authorities as Burma wants to buy thousands of passenger buses.

More Fisheries Ventures With Thailand Urged

BK1501044090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 90 p 26

[By Smarn Sudto]

[Text] Rangoon—The Burmese authorities have urged Thai companies to enter joint ventures in fishing, seafood processing and ice making, which they say have bright prospects.

Burma's Minister for Livestock Breeding & Fisheries and Agriculture, Maj Gen Chit Swe, extended the invitation to a 27-member Thai delegation led by Deputy Agriculture Minister Dr Charoen Kanthawong, which visited Rangoon on January 10-11.

The Thai team's visit was to discuss fishing cooperation and to inform the Burmese authorities about the establishment of a new Thai company, Thai-Myanma Fisheries (1990) Co, to facilitiate Thai firms wishing to enter joint fishery ventures with Burma.

Maj-Gen Chit Swe said Burma was willing to enter joint ventures with Thais in several fields and that Rangoon had so far approved 10 foreign firms to operate in Burma. However, none of them were for the fishery industry.

"This is a good opportunity for Thai firms to jointly invest in fishery projects in Burma," the minister said.

Several Thai groups have been permitted to fish in Burmese waters for one year, in return for royalty payments. Their licences are scheduled to expire in March.

Maj-Gen Chit Swe gave assurances that the Burmese authorities would take a short time to process applications by Thai firms. But he suggested that interested groups carefully study Burma's investment laws first to better understand its rules and regulations.

Asked about his meeting with the Thai delegation, he said the discussions were very successful and he hoped that both countries can commence fishery ventures soon.

Maj-Gen Chit Swe admitted that the Burmese authorities had encountered several problems with Thai fishermen operating in Burmese waters mainly because too many Thai boats were trawling for its rich marine resources.

To solve these problems, Burma will increase the number of its coastal patrol boats to prevent trawlers operating without permission from catching fish in its waters.

He also complained that many fishing companies from Thailand did not want to go through government-to-government channels but preferred to contact him privately.

Every day, private groups from Thailand including timber and fishery companies want to come directly to meet him to discuss their business, he said.

Among the other Thai delegation members were the Fishery Department Director-General Plotprasop Suratsawadi, Thai-Myanma Fisheries' chairman Anek Sukhaphut and managing director Somkiat Anurat.

Commander Warns About 'Destructive Elements'

BK1501094490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Brigadier General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command, and military officers at Hmawbi Garrison held a meeting on the agricultural, livestock breeding, and relief programs undertaken at various levels of military units, and on the progress of work on the implementation of the three major duties of immediate priority explained by the Defense Services chief of staff during a speech delivered at the 44th Defense Services Day parade in 1989. The meeting was held at the Aung San Hall of the Army Officers Training School at 0830 today. [passage omitted]

Speaking on the occasion, Brig Gen Myo Nyunt said that of the three major duties, the first deals with the nation's defense and security. He said it is a known fact that for a country to be strong, the defense forces must be strong and that for the strength of the defense forces to grow, the strength of the country must be great.

We have been hearing news about some people trying, through both words and deeds, to make our country an enslaved nation again. Because of this, we need to be vigilant against acts that threaten our territorial integrity while also trying not to lose sight of those trying to bring foreign threats to the country. We must carry out the nation's defense and security tasks with a sense of sacrifice and courage.

By studying the life of soldiers, it becomes apparent that their enlistment is not simply to undertake military service for the country's defense as stated in Article 171 of the state Constitution, but to perform the noble duty that every citizen should be performing—to protect and safeguard the nation's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity as underscored in Article 170 of that Constitution. They enlisted voluntarily—not at someone's behest; they are defending the nation with a pledge and they would give up their lives for the country.

This being the case, we cannot permit the nation to disintegrate during our time, and as in the times of our independent ancestors, we must defend it in a concerted action and with all ethnic nationalities on an equal footing.

As for the second task, Brig Gen Myo Nyunt said the Defense Services assumed the responsibilities of the nation on 18 September 1988, and the chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] made an appeal on 27 September to the political parties, students, monks, democracy-loving people, and others in the nation to help in the holding of multiparty democratic general elections.

However, it is with regret that I note that some organizations are ignoring this appeal and trying only to gain state power. They are demanding that power be transferred as soon as the elections are over, that economic issues be tackled later, and that democracy be implemented first. [passage omitted]

As it is essential for you, Soldiers, to actively take part in the four major tasks undertaken by the SLORC, it is also vital to recall the experience we have had during the era of parliamentary democracy when insurgent organizations of all stripes have resorted to all means to win votes for the organizations they have reached agreement with behind the scenes. In the same way that insurgents operate under the cover of forests and hills, spies and henchmen sent by these organizations will operate behind certain personalities. Utilizing the people's strength, military tactics, organizational efforts, and administrative work, these destructive elements hiding behind personalities must be exposed thoroughly, completely, and speedily.

The third duty of unifying and consolidating the Defense Services for eternity must be implemented through observance of the slogans of the Defense Services: "The Defense Services—they are your parents;" "Don't believe what the others say, believe in what your guts say;" and "Let one and all try dividing us, we will not split, we will always remain as one."

As true as the saying—military operations are temporary and unity is forever—we must never lose sight of the fact that the task of defending the state is much more profound and greater than the other tasks. When more qualified people join the Defense Services in quantity, implementation of these three duties will become even more pronounced. Heads of regiments and other military units and training school principals are urged to provide leadership to the others in the form of military leaders and as judges, administrators, trainers, and parents. [passage omitted]

'Dissidents' in Secret Contacts With Candidates

BK1601023190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] Burmese dissidents and most of the ethnic armed resistance groups operating inside Burma have secretly established contact with political parties preparing to contest the general elections there on May 27, Burmese students claimed yesterday.

The student groups which fled the Saw Maung regime after last year's bloody suppression of their democracy movement to oppose the Rangoon government from camps along the Thai-Burmese border, also expressed full support for political parties that oppose the military dictatorship in their country.

A student leader, Ko Kyaw Min, said recent reports from Rangoon indicated a total of 1,939 candidates from 94 registered political parties and 63 independent candidates have registered with the election commission to contest the polls.

"Many of these 2,000 candidates have contact with rebel groups and student dissidents," he said. He declined to reveal their identities for safety reasons.

Maung Win, another former student from Rangoon who has been temporarily living at an apartment in Bangkok because of his poor health, said his group also has contact with many candidates inside Burma.

"We have contact with all those who are pro-democracy and are against the dictatorship," Maung Win claimed.

He said the Saw Maung government was trying to improve its image and had been trying to win popularity by initiating various activities for the people.

However, the Government would continue to use the power of its military dictatorship to ensure it stayed in power, Maung Win said.

Another student, Than Kyaw, who now lives at the border area near the Three Pagoda Pass, said he did not believe there would be fair elections in his country.

An indication of this was that there were 118 registered political parties, but not all of them were fielding candidates for the general election, he said.

At present there are at least 3,000 Burmese dissidents living near the Thai-Burmese border, and many of them have their own way of establishing contacts with political parties in Rangoon.

Some armed resistance ethnic groups have also established contacts and are backing some of the parties in spite of their belief that the elections will not be fair, Than Kyaw said.

Most Burmese students along the border support Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of Burma's independence hero Gen Aung San, while others support former Burmese Prime Minister U Nu in the up-coming election.

There will be about six strong political parties which are expected to win over 300 of the total of 491 constituencies across the country, he said.

Karen Mine Said To Hit Bus; Five Killed

BK1401142990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Excerpts] KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents have been disrupting regional peace and tranquillity and have also been barbarously killing and maiming innocent people by planting mines and firing on them with small arms and RPG's. As a result, at about 0730 on 12 January, a passenger bus, license No D-8161, driven by Aung Myint, which left Kawkareik for Myawadi, hit a KNU mine at the bifurcation near Thingannyinaung. The blast killed 5 and wounded 17 other passengers. [passage omitted]

Those wounded were immediately sent to hospital for treatment. Help is also being given to the bereaved families of the passengers killed.

Troops Prepare To Attack Karen Stronghold

BK1601024190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] Chiang Mai—Burmese troops are poised to attack a Karen rebel stronghold at Kawmura, opposite Mae Sot District of Tak, Thai military sources said yesterday.

Rangoon on Friday moved some 3,000 troops, artillery pieces and mortars from Ban Pang Karn to Huey Sarn in preparation for a major assault on the rebels' camp, the sources said.

A Burmese reconnaissance plane was spotted flying near Kawmura, they said.

Late last month, Burmese forces overran the Karen National Union camp of Palu.

Other camps that have already fallen to government troops include Mae Tawah, Klerday, Mawpokay and Tikerday.

Meanwhile in the Burmese township of Myawadi yesterday afternoon, two Burmese civilians were killed and eight seriously injured when a time bomb exploded at a Burmese Customs checkpoint near the Moei River.

Seven seriously injured were sent to Mae Sot district hospital for medical treatment.

A Burmese official said that he believed the bomb came from the Thai side of the border.

Nine Political Parties Allocated Symbols 15 Jan

BK1501142690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanma [Burma] issued Announcement No 361, dated 15 January 1990—the 5th day of the waning moon of Pyatho, 1351 Myanma era. The announcement reads:

Subject: Allocating Symbols Representing Political Parties

1. The Elections Commission issued Announcement No 339 on 20 November 1989 regarding 25 symbols to be used by candidates representing political parties. Of these symbols, the Elections Commission, in accordance with the rulings under By-law No 106 of the People's Assembly Election Law and after consultation with the political parties concerned, on 15 January 1990, has allocated the following symbols to the candidates representing political parties and organizations which are competing in more than 25 constituencies:

1. Democracy Party—gong symbol
2. National League for Democracy—farmer's hat symbol
3. National Unity Party—rice stalk symbol
4. Shan Nationalities League for Democracy—drum symbol
5. Peasants Unity Party—cart symbol
6. League for Democracy and Peace—alarm clock symbol
7. Union National Democratic Party—scales symbol
8. Arakan League for Democracy—lamp symbol
9. Democratic Front for National Reconstruction, Union of Burma—flag symbol

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Commission Chairman Explains Election Issues

BK1501150590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] The Elections Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanma [Burma] invited the first batch of political parties, which will be fielding candidates in more than 25 constituencies, to coordinate the allocation of symbols to their candidates. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the Office of the Elections Commission at No 94 Natmauk Road, Bahan Township, Yangon [Rangoon] at 1000 today. It was attended by commission Chairman U Ba Htay; commission members U Saw Kyar Doe, U San Maung, Saya Chai, and U Kyaw Nyunt; commission secretary U Aye Maung; responsible officials of the Democracy Party, the National League for Democracy, the National Unity Party, the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, the Peasants Unity Party, the League for Democracy and Peace, the Union National Democratic Party, the Arakan League for Democracy, and the Democratic Front for National Reconstruction, Union of Burma.

The meeting was presided over by commission Chairman U Ba Htay while [words indistinct].

Addressing the meeting, the commission chairman said he was happy to see political parties nominating many candidates for the elections. The reason for holding the meeting was to allocate—in accordance with Bylaw No 106 of the People's Assembly Election Law—symbols to the political parties and organizations.

As the first batch, political parties that will be competing in more than 25 constituencies are being invited to coordinate the allocation of symbols. Political parties that intend to field candidates in 5 to 24 constituencies will be allocated symbols on 22 January. For political parties that will run in 3 or 4 constituencies, symbols will be allocated on 29 January. Hence, political parties are invited to freely choose from amongst the 25 symbols already prescribed by the elections commission, he said. [passage omitted]

In his concluding speech, the commission chairman said he was happy with the successful allocation of symbols to the political parties so that they can be used by their candidates. [passage omitted]

The commission, he said, was doing everything possible to make the elections fair and free. In order to make the elections fair and free, it is essential for the four sides—the government, the elections commission, the political parties, and the people—to do their duty as necessary.

It will not be enough for just the government and the elections commission to be working in accordance with the law to make the elections fair and free. It is also essential for the political parties and the people to behave, both in words and deeds, within the framework of the law so that the elections can successfully be held in a fair and free manner.

Fair and free elections mean enabling voters to freely vote for the candidates of their choice without any fear or concern; ensuring the candidates get the votes cast for them; facilitating organizations supervising the elections to carry out their work in accordance with the law and regulations; and ensuring political parties and the voters behave, both in words and deeds, in accordance with the law. These are the factors that will ensure fair and free elections.

In an election, it is essential to create conditions that will enable the commission and the subcommissions supervising the election to do their work as well, to facilitate the voting public to cast their ballots freely. Whenever there is a threat by the use of arms, by the gathering of people, or by a whispering campaign, or if a riot breaks out due to clashes between political parties, elections in such constituencies cannot be fair or free. If a situation that negates the chance of holding fair and free elections in a constituency or in different constituencies arises, then the holding of elections in those constituencies will be postponed until a date the elections can be held in a fair and free manner. This has been prescribed in the People's Assembly Election Law.

The commission chairman said the only objective of the elections commission is to hold fair and free elections throughout the nation; therefore, political parties and the people are invited to work with the government and the elections commission and to do their duty in their own respective roles so that fair and free elections can be held in all constituencies without any postponement.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Said Gaining From 'Shakeup' Reports

BK1401014890 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 90 p 5

[Text] Efforts to play up the possibility of a Phnom Penh Cabinet reshuffle as a result of battlefield advances by the Cambodia resistance are aimed at scaring the West into a political settlement that would favour Premier Hun Sen, a senior Foreign Ministry official said yesterday.

Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Suraphong Chaiyanam made the comment following reports that a Phnom Penh Cabinet shakeup is possible following military advances by the resistance and uncertain progress towards a political settlement.

UPI quoted Khieu Kanharith, the editor of KAMPUCHEA, the state-run newspaper, as saying that during the assembly meeting at the end of this month Premier Hun Sen is expected to face "many criticisms."

Mr Kanharith told UPI: "I think there will be some changes."

UPI also quoted other political sources and Western observers as saying that Mr Hun Sen's government was in political difficulty with more hardline members of the ruling Communist Party.

Mr Suraphong said that while there is no doubt that the Cambodian resistance has made battlefield gains, he does not believe the gains are sufficient to force a Cabinet shakeup.

The reason such news is being released is because Phnom Penh wants the West to fear the return of the genocidal Khmer Rouge, he said.

Prompted by such fear, the West is likely to push for a politicial solution that would favour the Phnom Penh line and block the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in the settlement, he said.

"This is the point the West fears the most," he said.

Mr Surapong said if the hardliners are to prevail in a shakeup, this would mean that even more fierce fighting will follow, making negotiating peace more difficult.

The deputy spokesman said international developments had made Vietnam more flexible than in the past, citing the upheaval in Eastern Europe, better rapport between China and the Soviet Union and the upcoming meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Cambodia.

He said that the Indochinese states had more to fear from the changes in Eastern Europe, particularly Vietnam and Phnom Penh.

These countries do not want their people to listen to news about Eastern Europe, he said.

Tran Quang Co on Parallel Rebel Administration

BK1401081690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0754 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Chiang Mai, Thailand, Jan 14 (AFP)—The Vietnam-backed Cambodian Government has ready a peace plan that would allow anti-Phnom Penh guerrillas to run part of Cambodia, Vietnamese deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co said here Sunday.

A supreme council made up of parallel Phnom Penh and resistance administrations would become an overall government serving the mainly symbolic function of representing Cambodian sovereignty, Mr. Co told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. His comments in this northern Thai city came as representatives of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council prepared to meet Monday in Paris to examine the Cambodian question against a backdrop of fierce fighting in Cambodia in which the resistance has seized large tracts of territory in northwest Cambodia.

The Phnom Penh government, installed by Hanoi after a December 1978 military invasion, still controls the capital, major cities and most of the rest of the country.

Mr. Co's comments were the first concerning the Phnom Penh regime's position following an Australian proposal for an interim U.N. administration to impose a ceasefire and prepare general elections in the war-torn Southeast Asian state.

Mr. Co said there would be "chaos" if the Phnom Penh regime dismantled itself, as the resistance demands, and the United Nations had to run the entire country.

The United Nations recognizes and seats the resistance as the legitimate Cambodian Government. The Australian plan stipulates that Cambodia's U.N. seat would be vacated, effectively dismantling the resistance's Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, a key Phnom Penh demand. Elections would then determine a new government.

Mr. Co said Phnom Penh sought a U.N. presence in Cambodia in the form of a direct liaison with the

Supreme Council. He added that the United Nations should oversee an international control mechanism to verify last September's Vietnamese troop withdrawal, see that no foreign aid came to the warring Cambodian factions, supervise a cease-fire and ensure that no party had an unfair advantage in elections campaigning.

Proposal Termed 'Premature'

BK1501101690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Jan 15 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said here Monday that it was "premature" to discuss new peace proposals like the one put forward a day earlier by Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co. Mr. Hun Sen, apparently taken aback by the Vietnamese proposal to allow Cambodian guerrillas to administer part of the country, said it was "premature to carry on this kind of negotiation through the media."

Mr. Co had revealed the plan on Sunday in an exclusive interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai.

The Cambodian leader, speaking after a three-and-a-half hour meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, said: "I think we need to find a formula of compromise and to decide who... should organize the next (international) conference on Cambodia."

Mr. Co said in the interview on Sunday that the Cambodian government was ready to offer guerrillas a peace plan under which the resistance would administer parts of the country.

Ranariddh Rejects Hanoi Plan

BK1601020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 90 p 7

[Text] The faction of Prince Norodom Sihanouk has urged that the administration of the Hun Sen regime and that of the resistance guerrillas in "liberated zones" be replaced with a United Nations administration.

In a statement released yesterday, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, commander-in-chief of the Sihanoukists, accused Hanoi of trying to make the world community believe in its "trick-shot flexibility toward a peaceful settlement in Cambodia."

Vietnam had earlier proposed a parallel administration between its regime and the resistance in their respective territories, and an ICM-UN [international control mechanism] verification of Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia last September.

Ranariddh claimed that the first proposal was tantamount to dividing Cambodia into two zones.

"The first continues to be occupied by Vietnamese forces and illegal settlers, using the Hun Sen regime as a convenient label. The second one is the zone liberated from the Vietnamese occupiers by the Cambodian resistance," he said.

He said Vietnam was trying to divide Cambodia and to take its main part pending the rest because it failed to swallow Cambodia by military means.

"As Cambodians we categorically reject all schemes of partition of Cambodia," he said.

Regarding the second proposal, Ranariddh charged that Hanoi only pretended to be more flexible by accepting a UN role to verify its military withdrawal.

"Hanoi tries once again to oppose the supervision and control of its troops withdrawal by the UN which were overwhelmingly acclaimed by the August 1989 Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the 44th session of the UNGA [United Nations General Assembly]," he said.

To accept this proposal would mean to allow Vietnam to realise its dream of having Cambodia in a "trickily peaceful way", he said.

This was "because the UN will of course see no Vietnamese in the resistance's zone and the UN, considered by Vietnam as a form of 'a direct liaison with the Supreme Council,' will have too limited power to effectively verify the pullout in the zone of Cambodian administrated by the puppet regime.

"Given that this regime is controlled by Hanoi, the latter continues to conceal its 100,000 troops and its million illegal settlers.

"The elections in that zone will then be held under the communist puppet regime in which one million of illegal Vietnamese settlers with rights as 'Khmer citizens' vote.

"Will the elections organised in such a condition be free, fair and democratic?", he asked.

Ranariddh insisted that Hanoi's proposals made before the five permanent members of the Security Council were deceitful.

"Only Prince Sihanouk's peace proposal can assure an effective UN role. He has therefore asked the UN to establish, for a necessary period of time, its administration at all levels and in all public services in Cambodia."

Hun Sen Praises Australian Plan for Peace

BK1501141890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1408 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Ho Chi Minh City, Jan 15 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said here Monday there was no proposal better than an Australian plan for peace in his country but that more negotiations among the warring factions were needed. Speaking after three-and-a-half hours of talks with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Mr. Hun Sen said there was "no proposal more favorable than the Australian proposal" which calls for an interim U.N. administration before elections in Cambodia. But he said the conflicting Cambodian parties needed to have further negotations.

"We cannot accept the Namibian formula," he said. "We must find a way to accommodate it (the Australian plan) to the reality on the ground. We accept the U.N. role in an interim authority," he added, but said "the involvement of the U.N. can take different forms that we need to negotiate further."

Mr. Alatas, speaking after a second and final meeting here with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, said the Australian proposal was "at the center of discussions." He said he was "more optimistic" because "there is a basis which at least none of the parties has rejected, a basis on which we should try to revive the talks." Mr. Alatas, who met last week in Bangkok with representatives of the three Cambodian resistance factions, said it was "premature to say if there will be an informal meeting in Jakarta" among the key players in the conflict.

"No decision has been taken," he said, but added that a meeting could be held at the end of February.

The Vietnamese foreign minister had said after meeting Mr. Alatas on Sunday that he would go to Jakarta if a conference was held. Mr. Hun Sen has also said he was ready "to participate there...if all the parties are consulted." [passage omitted]

Asked about the recent statement by French President Francois Mitterrand that there should be no compromise with the notorious Khmer Rouge, which Mr. Hun Sen's regime succeeded in 1979, Mr. Hun Sen said: "If it's true it's very important, very positive. Any step or proposal to prevent the Khmer Rouge (from entering) into a solution will be very much welcomed by the Cambodian people," he said.

More Enemy Forces Killed in Battambang 4-10 Jan

BK1201143290 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Here is a report on the successes of our frontline Armed Forces:

According to frontline sources, from 0500 to 0530 on 10 January, from the position of strength and victory and confident as masters of the battlefield, the Armed Forces of Battambang Province and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province and the 23d Battalion of the courageous 6th Brigade closely cooperated in launching a powerful sweeping operation against the enemy in the Bos Sbov area, achieving pride-inspiring results.

As an outcome of the operation, we killed on the spot 75 enemy soldiers and seized a large quantity of arms and other war materiel.

On the other hand, according to a report from the 5th Military Region, our Armed Forces won one success after another in the Treng area. In fact, as a result of the operation launched against the enemy from 4 to 6 January we killed 23 enemy soldiers, on 7 January we killed 30 and wounded 10, and on 8 January we killed 13 others.

In the area under the responsibility of the 25th Battalion, during an ambush against the enemy south of Ta Hen on 9 January, we killed three enemy soldiers and seized two AK's and one B-40 1/2.

According to the same news sources, in the area under the responsibility of the 94th Brigade, we killed 14 enemy soldiers, wounded 326 others, and destroyed 1 75-mm DKZ and 1 82-mm mortar.

The above successes constitute another blow at the enemy, inflicting a more serious setback on him. This success is welcomed most enthusiastically by our people who have become more confident in the ability of their own forces.

Son Sann Said To Agree to Australian Proposal

BK1301065090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Reports from Paris, France, say His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and prime minister of the Cambodian Coalition Government, has agreed in principle to Australia's proposal requesting that Cambodia be put under temporary UN Administration.

His Excellency Son Sann voiced support for Australia's proposal during recent talks in Paris with Australian Deputy Foreign Minister Michael Costello. However, the VOK newsroom has not yet received details of this agreement. Earlier, Ieng Mouli, general secretary of the KPNLF, said the KPNLF does not object to putting Cambodia under temporary UN Administration; however, Cambodia's seat should not be left vacant. This seat should be occupied by representatives of the four Cambodian parties or the representative of the UN Secretary General on behalf of the Cambodian people.

Son Soubert, assistant to the prime minister of the Cambodian coalition government in charge of foreign affairs and KPNLF representative, said it is important to keep Cambodia's seat in the United Nations because although Cambodia is under UN administration, Cambodia still retains its rights despite the fact that this seat is occupied by the UN Secretary general's representative on behalf of the Cambodian people. Son Soubert also said during the last round of talks with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, he told Alatas the the KPNLF realizes there is currently a new basis for resuming talks to solve the Cambodian problem and that the KPNLF does not object to having talks first in

Jakarta and then in Paris next or going straight to Paris. He said this is up to the majority of other participants to decide.

His Excellency Son Sann is currently on a mission in France after attending the meeting at the United Nations. There are reports saying that he will soon return to the zones controlled by the KPNLF.

Curfew Reportedly Imposed in 5th Region

BK1301031790 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] After our national resistance forces attacked and smashed the command of the 5th Military Region of the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets as well as crushed major strategic positions in Battambang town on the night of 5 January, the Vietnamese enemies and the puppet ringleaders in Battambang Town and in the entire 5th Military Region were in great panic. Since the night of 5 January, the commander of the 5th Military Region, who is responsible for three provinces, namely Battambang, Pursat, and a new province that the Vietnamese enemies named as Banteay Meanchey or Sisophon, immediately declared a state of emergency. The commander imposed a night-time curfew and issued a martial law ordering the closure of all roads and large and small lanes and banning people from traveling at night throughout the 5th Military Region.

However, despite the fact that the Vietnamese enemies have declared a state of emergency and imposed such a strict curfew, still they have failed to resist the attacks by our national resistance forces with the support and participation of the people in all areas.

The present situation of the Vietnamese enemies and the evil puppet ringleaders is that they seem to sit on a blazing fire which will soon burn them to death.

NADK Command Praises Victories in Battambang

BK1301043090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Commendation of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea Supreme Command to the command, cadres, male and female combatants, and people on Battambang Town battlefield," dated 12 January—read by announcer]

[Text] I. At midnight on 5 January 1990, the comrades-in-arms of our National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] with close cooperation of the people in Battambang town successfully attacked the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets in various important strategic places and positions in Battambang town. The fire, which burned throughout Battambang town from midnight on 5 January, was still blazing at dawn on 6 January.

On the morning of 6 January, our comrades-in-arms continued attacking and sweeping the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets in various strategic places inside and in the suburb of Battambang town, causing great panic to the enemies. They fled in disarray.

The results scored by our comrades-in-arms together with the people in Battambang town are as follows:

1. Destruction:
A. In the middle of the town:
1) Hundreds of Vietnamese-puppet forces were killed or wounded;
2) The command of the Vietnamese-puppet 5th Military Region located near the Battambang Provincial office and its defense positions were totally destroyed;
3) A regiment position and an artillery position at Rum Chek Garrison were completely destroyed;
4) The Bek Chan airfield was utterly damaged and its control tower and 2 planes in this airfield were destroyed;
5) 4 105-mm artillery pieces, 4 DK-75's, 5 DK-82's, a 37-mm machinegun, 5 12.7-mm machineguns, and more than 100 light machineguns and firearms were destroyed;
6) A rice mill with hundreds of bags of paddy and rice, a gas station containing tens of hundreds of liters of gasoline, five military trucks, two tractors, and many military motorcycles were destroyed.
B. In the southern and eastern parts of Battambang town:
1) Vietnamese-puppet company positions located at Boeng Krum in Prey Toch Commune for defending Route 5 were completely destroyed;
2) Vietnamese administrative networks in Anlung Vil, Khpop, Sala Ta An, and Norea townships and Samraong Khnong and Norea commune offices were completely destroyed;
3) A 40-meter railway bridge at O Sralau, two railway station buildings, and a truck were destroyed;
4) A war materiel depot in O Sralau market was set on fire until dawn.

2. Capture and Seizure:
A. Our comrades-in-arms controlled the entire Battambang town for four hours before withdrawing;
B. We liberated and occupied Boeng Krum position on Route 5 south of Battambang town until today;
C. In the southern part of the town, we liberated and occupied six villages in Vat Ta Moem and Reang Kesei communes;
D. In the eastern part of the town, we liberated 4 communes, namely Norea, Anlung Vil, Ta Pon, and Samraong Khnong, and 38 villages.

In addition, our comrades-in-arms seized a large quantity of assorted weapons, ammunition, and war materiel.

II. This combat victory won by our national army's comrades-in-arms and our people on Battambang town battlefield is a big victory of strategic significance. That is, the comrades-in-arms smashed a large number of enemy manpower and, particularly, utterly destroyed the important strategic places of the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets for commanding and supplying the battlefields in Battambang and Pursat Provinces, and the newly created province that the Vietnamese enemies call Banteay Meanchey. The attack on the command networks of the Vietnamese-puppet 5th Military Region right in the heart of Battambang town is of great significance, militarily, politically, diplomatically, and economically. This is because Battambang town is the second largest city, next to Phnom Penh, and is densely populated, has a good economy, and is internationally known as the granary of Cambodia.

Therefore, this big combat victory won by the comrades-in-arms has caused great concern to the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, and has brought great joy to all the Cambodian people both inside and outside the country, greatly encouraging our Cambodian national resistance forces throughout the country. Moreover, news of this combat victory has spread throughout the world, thus bringing elation and encouragement to friendly countries near and far.

III. The NADK Supreme Command would like to express its warmest commendation to the command, cadres, and male and female combatants of the NADK and our people on Battambang Town battlefield who made an all-out effort, arduously and patiently striving to surmount all kinds of complex difficulties, and fighting valiantly and vigorously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppet-lackeys until achieving this splendid outcome.

The NADK Supreme Command would like to urge all comrades-in-arms together with our people to further carry on their offensive against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppet-lackeys even more vigorously until Battambang town—the big strategic town—is totally liberated from the evil claws of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors.

[Dated] 12 January 1990
[Signed] Supreme Command of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea

6th Division Defense Line Reportedly Smashed

BK1301004190 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Special report"]

[Text] 1. After putting pressure on the Vietnamese enemy's positions at Bavel, Ampil Pram Daeum and Boeng Sangke [Battambang Province] by shelling them regularly and cutting portions of road leading from Bavel to Ampil Pram Daeum and from Ampil Pram Daeum to Ta Khiev and Toek Sap, on 6 January our national resistance forces attacked a Vietnamese-puppet battalion position at O Trav Chu and three company positions defending this O Trav Chu battalion position. We killed or wounded 24 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers, including a battalion commander and a company commander, who were both killed. We destroyed a rice warehouse, an ammunition depot, a mine storage depot, 20 combat posts, 35 assorted weapons, including DK-82's, 80-mm mortars, 12.7-mm machine guns, RPD's, B-40's, and AK's, and a large quantity of war materiel.

We seized 15 light machine guns and AK's, 3,000 mines, and 2 telephone sets.

2. After sweeping, smashing, and controlling these positions at O Trav Chu, which are frontline defense networks of the 6th Division's position at Toek Sap, our national resistance forces continued attacking and putting pressure on the defense networks of the 6th Division at Toek Sap. This has caused great alarm to enemy soldiers. They have deserted their positions and fled helter-skelter to hide in Bavel. Our national resistance forces also took full control of two battalion positions and four company positions among these Toek Sap defense networks.

In sum, our national resistance forces liberated and took control of three battalion positions and seven company positions of the 6th Division stationed at O Trav Chu and Toek Sap.

Resistance Shells Posts West of Battambang

BK1301004590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Special report"]

[Text] On 7 January, our national resistance forces put pressure on Vietnamese enemy by firing many rockets into Phnum Sampeou and Snoeng townships, the battalion position at Snoeng, and positions at Boeng Trav, Boeng Ampil, O Svay, Peng An, and Kamping Puoy, killing or wounding 24 Vietnamese enemy soldiers, destroying a military truck, an 80-mm mortar, and 5 barracks.

This simultaneous heavy shelling has caused great panic to the Vietnamese enemy and its puppets to the point that they fell into disorder. While in this chaos, hundreds of both Vietnamese and Cambodian soldiers deserted their ranks. Among these deserters were 75 Cambodian soldiers who fled to meet our national resistance forces. They laid down their weapons and asked for permission to return home.

Route 5 Attacked, Bridges Said Destroyed

BK1201062390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Excerpt] On the night of 7 January, our national resistance attacked and swept the Vietnamese enemy and puppets along National Route 5 and along the railway line from O S'at to Pou Kaong Village on a 7-km stretch and destroyed the Russei commune office located at Thnal Bat Village on Route 5. We killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers.

At the same time, our national resistance forces also attacked and cut six bridges: three on Route 5—the 25-meter O S'at bridge, the 10-meter Boeng Veng bridge, and the 10-meter S'at Thmar bridge—and three railway bridges—the 25-meter O S'at bridge, the 150-meter Boeng Veng bridge, and the 10-meter S'at Thmar bridge. We destroyed a commune office and a quantity of materiel. We liberated nine villages: Thnal Bat, Ta Long Leu, Svay Prahaong, Pou Kaong, Ambel Chhoung, Chahuoy, Thmat Pong, Sras Chineang, and Tuol Neak Kruo.

The next day, 8 January, the Vietnamese enemy gathered a battalion of its troops from Pursat and Moung in an attempt to oppose us south of Sras Chineang. We ambushed and routed them, killing 12 of them on the spot and wounding 8 others, destroying 11 AK's, B-40's, and B-41's, and seizing a quantity of materiel and ammunition.

We would like to specify that the Vietnamese enemy had repaired O S'at bridge for the second time and did not have a chance to use it yet; and now it has been cut for the third time by our forces. These repeated attacks to cut the road and bridges on both the railway line and Route 5 have completely interrupted the Vietnamese enemy's rail transport activities for nearly 2 months. National Route 5 has also been successively cut at many places and this has hampered and nearly choked the Vietnamese enemy's transport activities by road for nearly 2 months as well. [passage omitted]

Highway Said Cut Between Banteay Srei, Pradak

BK1401070090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] After attacking and liberating the Vietnamese-puppet strategic positions in Anlung Veng and along Route 69 at the foot of the Dangrek mountain range, our national resistance forces continued to attack and sweep the Vietnamese enemies and puppets along Route 63 between Anlung Veng and Sre Noy and cut off the route linking Sre Noy and Banteay Srei, completely isolating the position of Sre Noy and putting it under constant pressure from our national resistance forces.

On 8 January, our national resistance forces continued to attack and completely cut off a highway called Red Road between Banteay Srei and Pradak. We completely cut off and destroyed a 6-kilometer portion of the highway between Banteay Srei and Khna Village. We also destroyed three bridges totaling over 40 meters in length along the road between Banteay Srei and Pradak.

Moreover, our national resistance forces swept the Vietnamese enemies and puppets on both sides of the road linking Banteay Srei and Pradak, liberated a Vietnamese battalion position and a company position, killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers, destroyed a 12.8-mm machinegun, and seized a 12.8-mm machine gun, many rifles, and some war materiel.

At present, our national resistance forces are continuing activities to demolish Vietnamese-puppet administrative networks on both sides of the highway between Banteay Srei and Pradak.

It is worth mentioning that our national resistance forces have conducted activities in this area for many years, especially in Angkor Thom Commune.

Khmer Rouge Report 'Panic' in Battambang Town

BK1501005290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Jan 90

["News from people in Battambang town and its surroundings"]

[Text] Following our national resistance forces' attacks on Battambang town and its surroundings on the night of 5 January, many thousands of people in Battambang town and its suburbs fled the city along National Route 5 toward Moung and further east of Moung on 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 January. Entire families with trailers, motorcycles, and ox and buffalo carts continue their journey; some rest on the way.

According to accounts by people fleeing Battambang town, the attacks by our national resistance on that town killed a large number of Vietnamese and puppet soldiers. Many major offices of the Vietnamese and puppets were destroyed. The people further said that the situation in Battambang town is one of great panic. Although Vietnamese and Heng Samrin soldiers and state authorities in Battambang town have imposed a curfew and set up many checkpoints, people living in the town are constantly in a panic. Market places are quiet; trading is quiet. Only Vietnamese and puppet soldiers are seen throughout the town.

Khmer Rouge 'Advancing Toward' Angkor Temples

BK1401052690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 14 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge announced Sunday [14 January] that its guerrillas were advancing toward Cambodia's famed Angkor temple complex. Roads to the north of the temples had been cut in the areas of Sre Noi and Banteay Srei, said the Khmer Rouge radio, monitored here.

Sre Noi is about 70 kilometers (42 miles) and Banteay Srei some 40 kilometers (25 miles) away from the Angkor temple complex, the symbol of the Khmer nation, and the adjoining market town of Siem Reap.

The Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, ousted from power in Cambodia 11 years ago by Vietnam's armed forces, forms the military backbone of a guerrilla coalition fighting Cambodia's Hanoi-backed government.

(In Phnom Penh, a government official reported Saturday fighting in the Angkor and Sre Noi areas, but he said the temple complex itself was not threatened).

The Khmer Rouge military command has ordered its guerrillas to seize control of Angkor and Siem Reap, just to the north of central Tonle Sap Lake, according to the group's radio.

The Khmer Rouge, who killed hundreds of thousands during their fanatical Marxist rule over Cambodia from 1975 and 1979, are allied to two non-communist factions headed by former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former conservative Premier Son Sann.

Vietnam announced a total withrawal of its troops from Cambodia last September, but the Khmer Rouge and their allies have disputed the claim.

Hun Sun, Leaders Reportly in Ho Chi Minh City

BK1301083990 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Unattributed commentary: "It Is Reported That Hun Sen Will Meet Ali Alatas in Prey Nokor"]

[Text] Upon learning about this, people laughingly asked: Vietnam and its puppets have announced to the world that puppets Heng Samrin and Hun Sen control 90 percent of Cambodian territory. How come puppet Hun Sen cannot even find a spot to receive guests in Cambodia? People still clearly remember that on 8 January Hun Sen received Australian Deputy Foreign Minister Costello in Svay Rieng. This already caused laughter among diplomats and international observers. People ask this question: Why is he not receiving guests in the capital, Phnom Penh, like leaders in other countries usually do?

And now Hun Sen dares not even receive guests in Svay Rieng on Cambodian soil; he instead asked to meet his guests on Vietnamese soil in Prey Nokor [Cambodian name for Ho Chi Minh City]. Do people know about bomb explosions right inside Phnom Penh and its suburb on the night of 6 January? According to sources in Phnom Penh, an explosion took place inside the royal palace; another near the office of the Interior Ministry; and another at one end of the Monivong bridge [in Phnom Penh's southeast suburb]. Many other explosions occurred at various places in Phnom Penh and its suburb.

These noisy incidents on the night of 6 January caused panic among Vietnamese big shots stationed in Phnom Penh and puppet leaders such as Heng Samrin, Hun Sen, and Chea Sim, who fled to Prey Nokor that same night. To this day, Vietnamese big shots and puppet leaders have not dared poke their head into Phnom Penh. On 8 January, they dared to venture up to Svay Rieng to receive the Australian guest. At the end of this week, however, Hun Sen did not even dare receive guests on Cambodian soil. He requested to meet guests in Prey Nokor instead, because there his Vietnamese masters will assist in providing strict security for him while in Phnom Penh or other places on Cambodian soil, he is not safe.

On the one hand, the tripartite resistance forces are vigorously increasing activities to search for and destroy him; and on the other, Cambodian soldiers forced by Vietnam and puppet leaders to fight and die daily, are increasingly rising up and turning against the latter. Furthermore, the Cambodian people everywhere, who are outraged by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppet leaders, traitors, and Vietnam's lackeys—who have been oppressing people, plundering, massacring, and maltreating them for the past 11 years—have increasingly revolted and cooperated with the national resistance forces to smash the Vietnamese and puppets everywhere in the country, even inside major cities such as Battambang and Phnom Penh.

Fire is raging on the entire Cambodian land. The feet of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, puppets Heng Samrin, Hun Sen, and Chea Sim, and others, burn wherever they step.

Insiders Said Involved in Phnom Penh Explosions

BK1501023090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Jan 90

["Additional report on attacks in Phnom Penh City"]

[Text] According to additional reports on attacks in Phnom Penh City:

1. In the 6 January attack on Phnom Penh City, a number of the administrative staff of Vietnam's lackey regime in Phnom Penh took part in placing plastic explosives and setting off bombs.

This report clearly shows that resistance forces coming from outside were shown the way by networks of people in Phnom Penh, particularly civil servants of Vietnam's puppet administration in Phnom Penh, to places to put plastic explosives and to explode bombs. This is why the resistance forces achieved great objectives such as causing explosions in the royal palace and at the Interior Ministry right in the middle of Phnom Penh.

2. Plastique and bomb explosions on the night of 6 January 1990 caused great panic among the Vietnamese enemy and its puppet leaders in Phnom Penh because, on the one hand, the Vietnamese enemy and puppets have made fairly good preparations to defend Phnom Penh City; martial law is imposed in some areas even. On the other hand, this kind of explosion should not have occurred at major strategic places such as the royal palace—an area with strict security—where important

foreign guests, such as from Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe, are lodged.

The Vietnamese enemy and puppets have determined that this was the work of insiders among Vietnam's puppet forces, particularly those who are working in the royal palace. The office of the Interior Ministry, the most brutal agent with its police and all kinds of Vietnamese and Soviet security experts as secret agents, should not have been attacked with plastic explosives and bombs. It was the plastique and bomb explosions at strategic places that caused panic among puppet leaders in Phnom Penh, particularly Hun Sen and Heng Samrin. They have evacuation plans to leave Phnom Penh, particularly in January, the month when the Vietnamese enemy occupied Phnom Penh and during the Vietnamese Tet. It is a month in which the Vietnamese enemy and puppets are afraid of attacks by the national resistance forces on what Vietnam and puppets consider their great day.

3. It is in this situation that there is news from Phnom Penh, Bangkok, and the outside world saying that Hun Sen dared not receive Costello in Phnom Penh; he was compelled to receive Costello in Svay Rieng instead. As people know, Svay Rieng is a marginal town and not appropriate for receiving foreign guests. However, because of the circumstance, due to security in Phnom Penh, Hun Sen was forced to swallow his pride and receive guests for political talks in depraved, isolated, and arid Svay Rieng.

And now the world has reported that the Vietnamese enemy and puppets Hun Sen and Heng Samrin dare not meet the Indonesian foreign minister in Phnom Penh, Svay Rieng, or any other place in Cambodia. They are going to meet Ali Alatas in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam because security there is tight enough to ensure their safety.

Son Sann Proposes Two-Phase Plan for UN

BK1601014590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jan 90 p 9

["Unofficial" translation of Son Sann Peace Plan sent by Khmer People's National Liberation Front office in Bangkok to THE NATION on 15 January]

[Text] I am 78 years old. At this age one has no political ambition. At the end of my life, I have but only one wish: to serve my motherland and my people, to obtain peace, to reconcile the Cambodians and to rebuild Cambodia after years of so much pain and hardship.

I am publicly expressing my views today as international negotiations aimed at finding a real solution to the Cambodian problem have again reached an impasse. It is also because 1989 ended in triumph for freedom-loving people against dictatorship and oppression. My country must not lag behind history.

In 1979, I was elected president of the Khmer People's Nation Liberation Front (KPNLF). This was a grouping of five resistance movements struggling for several years against the Khmer Rouge. But by that time, because of the Vietnamese invasion, the adversary had changed. The immediate threat was the Vietnamese. Our goal was to oppose by weapons their occupation. This common enemy forced and made necessary the setting up of a Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK], finally founded in 1982. I have been, since its foundation, the CGDK prime minister.

The democratic KPNLF is one of the members of the coalition government which holds the Cambodian seat in the UN. The other two are the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] of Prince Sihanouk, another non-communist organization, and the Khmer Rouge whose appalling image in the international community lives on and continues to worry the whole world, especially now because of their current military offensives in northwestern Cambodia.

Facing this coalition government is a fourth component: the communist regime installed in Phnom Penh by the Vietnamese, directed essentially by men trained by the Khmer Rouge and former Khmer Viet Minh. These are the elements of the Cambodian tragedy.

For more than 10 years now we have fought against the Vietnamese occupiers and opposed the regime they installed in Phnom Penh. Many nations and many friends tried hard to propose solutions for peace. I would like to offer them my profound gratitude. But despite all this goodwill, always one or another of these four Khmer factions rejects these initiatives.

The solution can only come from the Cambodians themselves. No friends, however well-intentioned, can obtain a consensus among the four Cambodian factions.

If the dissensions between the four factions continue there is the enormous risk that the Khmer Rouge will retake power in Phnom Penh. But who wants the return of the Vietnamese troops? Who wants the dismantling of Cambodia? Nobody!

Or else the four factions agree immediately, without new procrastinations, for a simple and precise plan of salvation acceptable to all without loss of face.

This two-phase plan would be implemented by the UN secretary-general.

First, an Interim Administration of Cambodia set up by the UN will organize free and fair elections, before handing over power to the elected government. During that period, Cambodia would keep her seat at the UN, but would not participate in any debate or voting, until the setting up of a new government.

Second, an immediate dispatch of a UN Peace Keeping Force to Cambodia and a freeze of all military action by the four factions.

I know the French president and the prime minister and his government are ready to help us if we reach such an agreement as will many other countries.

Therefore, I am imploring the three other factions to immediately approve this salvation plan.

As this is urgent, I will not hesitate to reconsider my position vis-a-vis the other Cambodian parties. Although my faith in men is unquestionable, for the Buddhist that I am nothing is permanent, nothing is irreversible. For each of us must understand that my country is my priority and that the alliances are not cemented, if the set goal cannot be reached.

I am asking the permanent members of the Security Council of the UN, as well as our influential neighbours, Thailand and Vietnam, to approve this salvation plan and do everything possible to convince their respective Khmer friends to accept it.

Laos

Reaction to SRV 'Reactionaries' Issue Reported

'Criminal Offenders' Extradited

BK1501103290 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 15 (OANA-KPL)—38 Vietnamese criminal offenders were on January 14 extradited to their native country following their trial on January 11 by the People's Supreme Court of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The offenders were found guilty of violating Laos' territory, hence affecting its security. They were sentenced to imprisonment ranging from 15 to 6 years. Such a crime by these armed Vietnamese reactionaries also constituted a sabotage against and a betrayal to the Vietnamese nation.

Their extradition, which was held at the Wattai Airport, was signed between Major General Saisompheng Souli-gnavong, director of the General Police Department of the Lao Ministry of Interior, and Colonel Tong Xuan Nhuan, representative of the Vietnamese Ministry of Interior, with the presence of the representatives of the Lao People's Supreme Court and the Consular Department of the Lao Foreign Ministry.

PASASON Views 'Reactionaries'

BK1501094590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Undated PASASON article]

[Text] Dear listeners: On 11 January, the People's Supreme Court of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] tried the armed exiled Vietnamese reactionaries who had intruded into Lao territory with the intent to infringe on the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the LPDR and carry out subversive activities; they were tried for violation of Articles 51, 61, and 64 of the Penal Code of the LPDR. The solemn trial has drawn the attention of the masses inside and outside the country.

The 38 defendants are exiled armed Vietnamese reactionaries, part of the Houang Co Minh reactionary force with its headquarters in California, the United States. They have been openly operating their own news agency with financial support from the United States rendered through organizations of Vietnamese exiles. The armed exiled Vietnamese force was established by Houang Co Minh by recruiting Vietnamese displaced persons from various refugee camps in Thailand. They have their stronghold—with the Vietnamese name of Van Kiet—located at (Phu Mak Dua), some 12 km from (Tham Khan Noi-Tham Kan Ngai) village in Trakan Phutphon District of Thailand's Ubon Ratchathani Province. Another stronghold was later set up at Phuphan mountain in Si Muang Mai District of Ubon Ratchathani Province. At their two strongholds, they underwent military and political training courses and were supported by a number of Thai officials who helped command and provided them with weapons and food.

This was not their first infiltration into the LPDR, and probably not the last one. In 1986, (Nguyen Van Tri), who was given the rank of major general by Houang Co Minh, led a company—Company 7685, which later changed its name to Company 7763—of 51 fully-equipped exiled Vietnamese reactionaries to cross the Mekong River from Thailand into the LPDR. But they were ambushed and totally wiped out. In 1987, three companies of 150 fully-armed exiled Vietnamese reactionaries—Companies 7684, 7686, and 7687—under the command of Houang Co Minh himself crossed the Mekong River into the LPDR once again. They were wiped out by the Lao people, militiamen, and regional forces. A number of the intruders including Houang Co Minh were killed and the rest captured. A considerable amount of weapons were seized.

In this latest intrusion, two companies of 68 men—Companies 1419 and 2589—under the command of Tran Quang Do or (Dao Bac Xe) came with full equipment such as 6 M-79 guns, 14 M-72's, 57 AK rifles, 5 pistols, 600 (?land mines), 272 hand grenades, 5 (?silencers), 5 cameras, 1 telescope, 10 [words indistinct], 2 15-watt transmitters, 2 compasses, and 152 inner tubes from big vehicles. They also carried medical and food supplies and clothes. We were able to capture many valuable items such as 63 saleung [approximately 132 grams] of gold and 4,360 baht cash.

On 22 August 1989, accompanied by six Thai nationals under command of a colonel, they started they journey and arrived at (Phon Kham) village of Khong Chiam District of Ubon Ratchathani Province. At [words indistinct] they were led by 18 exiled Lao reactionaries to the bank of the Mekong River on the Thai side. On 23 August 1989, at 1900 hours, the armed exiled Vietnamese reactionaries crossed the Mekong River into Laos with the help from seven exiled Lao reactionaries.

They infiltrated through (Phanem) area, (Phou Phakkeo Tai), (Pak Houai Luang) in Lakhonpheng District of Saravane Province before proceeding to Toumlan and Ta-oi Districts. They stole crops and domestic animals of the people wherever they went. With the sense of vigilance to defend independence and sovereignty, militiamen and regional forces of Toumlan and Ta-oi Districts pursued and attacked them. Our forces engaged in as many as seven clashes with them. A number of people were wounded and houses were damaged. As the result of their evil deeds, a number of them were killed by our militiamen and regional forces. The remaining 38 others were captured and later tried by the court.

In the court, they unconditionally confessed all the crimes they had committed during their armed intrusion into our territory. The court verdicts on Tran Quang Do and his colleagues are strong indictments against Thailand, for a number of bad elements in the Thai officialdom have been sheltering, feeding, and providing military training, equipment, and weapons for these reactionaries to assist their intrusion into Lao territory.

These are acts impairing the relations of friendship and fraternal neighborliness; countering the spirit of the joint communiques signed in 1979 and 1988 between the Governments of the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand; and opposing the trend toward peace, stability, and mutual cooperation in this region and the world. They have turned Thai territory into a springboard for maneuvers to seize Lao and Cambodian territory on several occasions and a haven for national traitors from the three Indochinese countries. Following these incidents, the reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles must be held responsible for all the consequences of their nefarious deeds.

Medical Team Ends 1-Year Mission in Cambodia

BK1501121890 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 15 (KPL)—The Lao medical team, led by Dr. Bounthaphani Bounsouai, returned home recently from Cambodian Stung Treng Province, ending its internationalist mission there.

During its one-year mission there, the Lao medical team, the eighth of its kind, cured more than 3,000 patients, gave medical check-ups to more than 3,000 expectant mothers and children, performed 260 operations, delivered 45 babies and made more than 5,000 diagnoses.

This mission was carried out under the 1980 joint agreement on cooperation signed between the Ministries of Public Health and Social Welfare of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] and of the State of Cambodia concerning the sending of the Lao medical teams to help the Cambodian people who suffered from the victims of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Another Lao medical team, which is the last one according to the agreement, has already started work in the Cambodian Stung Treng Province.

Paper Hails DPRK's Reunification Initiative

BK1601112190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Jan 90

[PASASON feature: "Welcome the DPRK's New Initiative on National Reunification"]

[Text] In compliance with the interests of the Korean people, who are desirous of national reunification, Comrade DPRK President Kim Il-song set forth on New Year's Eve a new initiative for pulling down the wall separating the northern and southern parts of Korea, allowing free contacts and passage by the people across the country, and keeping the door fully open between the North and the South. The initiative is in line with the strong aspiration and urgent need for the reunification of Korea. It is designed to overcome difficulties and obstacles that hinder national reunification and to provide a crucial turning point in the efforts to solve the problem of national reunification.

The new initiative stresses that, first of all, it is necessary to dismantle the wall along the military demarcation line to let the Korean people freely visit each other and keep the door between the two parts of Korea fully open so as to avoid confrontation between the North and the South, reduce tension in the Korean peninsula, and pave the way for peaceful reunification of the country. To demonstrate its goodwill and usher in an era of new hope for peaceful reunification of the country in compliance with the Korean people's aspirations, the DPRK Government is prepared to cooperate with South Korea to dismantle the wall and iron fence along the demarcation line to let the Korean people in the North and the South freely visit each other and keep the door fully open in political, economic, cultural, and other areas.

For this reason, Kim Il-song calls for dialogues between the North and South with participation of government representatives, political party heads, and paramount leaders of the two parts of the country. In the past, the DPRK Government has been active in setting forth various rational initiatives that aim to transform the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone of peace, by totally withdrawing the U.S. armed forces and their weapons and war equipment from South Korea.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Lao people highly appraise and resolutely support the said constructive initiative of goodwill put forth by the DPRK Government. All parties concerned should create conditions favorable to the settlement of the Korean issue in response to the Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification of their country without external interference. We firmly believe that conditions for the improvement of internal relations between the two parts of Korea and the elimination of obstacles to dialogues between the northern and southern parts are compatible with the interest of the Korean people, as well as with peace and stability in the Korean peninsula, the Asian-Pacific region, and the world.

Philippines

Government Lifts Ban on Contacts With PRC

HK1501130190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 13 Jan 90 p 9

[By Julius Fortuna]

[Text] The Philippines government lifted yesterday its ban on high-level contacts with the People's Republic of China [PROC], following the Chinese government's lifting of martial law in Beijing.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Manuel T. Yan said the lifting of martial law in Beijing has removed the single, most important obstacle to resumption of normal relations between China and the Philippines.

"This is a salutary development. It augurs well for our bilateral relations with the PROC and for the overall situation in the region," Yan said.

The Aquino government banned Cabinet members from visiting China in protest against the massacre of prodemocracy demonstrators on Tiananmen Square on June 3.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus told Japanese Foreign Minister Hiroshi Mitzusuka last July that the Philippines was prepared to do more than issuing protest statements about the Tiananmen massacre.

The Philippines also suspended implementation of cultural agreements between the two countries.

But with the lifting of martial law in Beijing, Yan said, there will now be a resumption of cultural exchanges between China and the Philippines.

Yan said the Philippines would support the move for more democracy in China.

Both President Aquino and Manglapus had openly supported the student demonstration in Beijing, but later backtracked when the Chinese government clamped down on the prodemocracy movement.

But the Philippines banned visits to China by Cabinet members.

Only bureau directors and sports officials working in regional federations have been allowed to visit China since the ban took effect June 3.

Aquino Makes Statement

HK1301063090 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Excerpt] President Corazon Aquino welcomed the news on the normalization of the situation in China following the lifting of martial law by Premier Li Peng recently. Tanny Rodriguez has the full report:

[Begin recording] In a press statement read to Malacanang reporters this morning, the president said that friendly relations between the Philippines and China will continue to develop as they have over the past decade. She also said that she would like the Chinese people to know that the international community is pleased with the news. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Allegations Made of U.S. Involvement in Coup

RAM Leader Makes Claims

HK1601091190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] A Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] leader revealed that some 50,000 U.S. Marines will support rebel soldiers in overthrowing the Aquino government. According to a Philippine Navy officer who is an active RAM member, the U.S. Navy contingent to which the marines belong is presently stationed in Pattaya Island, Thailand. This group of U.S. soldiers is reportedly ready to proceed to the Philippines once a planned coup d'etat takes place next month.

The RAM leader also claimed that the CIA is involved in this attempt to topple the present administration. The planned coup attempt will be bloodier than the one launched last December, because some top government officials, including President Aquino, will be assassinated.

This report of alleged U.S. Marines' support for the rebel soldiers was also confirmed by Filipinos serving in the U.S. Navy who are also waiting in Thailand.

Meanwhile, some 500 members of the Moro National Liberation Front reportedly offered their support for the next coup attempt. The Muslims are angry with the present administration for its failure to address their grievances.

In a related development, rebel soldiers are reportedly stepping up coordination activities to consolidate their forces from Northern Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

Official Cites Arms Refusal

HK1601093990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] A high-ranking military official has disclosed another incident pointing out the United States' failure to honor its commitments to the Philippines. The incident is in relation to the failure to supply antitank weapons to the Armed Forces of the Philippines prior to the 1 December 1989 coup. According to the official, who requested anonymity, the United States refused to provide arms to the Armed Forces despite Camp Aguinaldo's requisition, forcing the Philippines to purchase weapons from arms traders. The government sent the request for arms supplies in March last year. The official said that due to the U.S. failure to send the needed arms, the government had to buy West German antitank weapons from a neighboring Asian country. The weapons, called Armbursts, were given to members of the Presidential Security Group, but were not used in the recent coup because rebel soldiers were unable to attack Malacanang Palace. Aside from antitank weapons, the official said that the elite forces of the Armed Forces are now equipped with Ultimax assault weapons, which are made in Singapore.

Aquino Gives Explanation

HK1601104990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has rejected Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo's request to see her. Through presidential spokesman Adolf Azcuna, Mrs Aquino said Aguinaldo would do better to appear before the court and explain the accusation of supporting rebel soldiers in the recent December coup.

Meanwhile, the president said that the United States' cancellation of the drug meeting in Manila in November does not mean that they had previous knowledge of the December coup. Mrs Aquino rejected Senator Neptali Gonzalez' proposal to cancel exploratory talks on the U.S. bases.

[Begin Azcuna recording in English, in progress] ...Cagayan Governor Aguinaldo with firmness and a due observance of the law. If he wants to air his side regarding his involvement in the failed December 1st coup attempt, he should precisely do so by appearing at the hearing scheduled for that purpose by the Department of Justice on January 26, 1990. Should he not avail of this opportunity to be heard, due process will have been observed and we can then proceed against him even in his absence, with just a warrant of arrest based on our evidence.

It is highly speculative to conclude from the cancellation of a workshop that the U.S. had prior knowledge of the December 1st coup attempt. The report that the U.S. refused to sell us antitank weapons is also unfounded. What happened was that we had previously placed orders for these weapons and were able to have their delivery advanced to replace those we used in subverting the rebellion. [end recording]

Probe Into Reported Foreign Arms Use in Coup

HK1201042590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 12 Jan 90 p 1

[By staff writers Dionisio Pelayo and Pamela Balcena]

[Text] Defense Undersecretary Leonardo Quisumbing said yesterday that he is looking into reports that military rebels received "sophisticated weapons" from abroad before the December coup attempt. The shipments from various countries which Quisumbing would not identify included "Sunburst" weapons, cannons which discharge flares that attract heat-seeking missiles from aircraft and ships. These equipment are not even in the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] inventory, said Quisumbing, who heads the defense department's investigation of the coup. He would not explain how the weapons were brought into the country.

Quisumbing said documents on the weapons and other aspects of the rebellion will be submitted to the Presidential Commission on the Coup headed by Hilario Davide.

He said that evidence so far gathered from bank employees, businessmen and captured rebels showed that "big money changed hands" preparatory to the rebellion. He added that banks in Luzon and the Visayas were used as conduits for the coup funds.

Quisumbing said that company commanders were paid P10,000 each to join the putsch, but would not identify the financiers. [passage omitted]

Suspected Coup Leader Arrested in Taguig Raid

HK1501064090 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Jan 90 p 1

[By correspondent Noli Cabantug]

[Text] Billy Bibit, one of the 15 most wanted leaders of the December coup attempt with a P500,000 price on his head, was arrested by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] yesterday morning, authorities said.

Bibit, a retired Constabulary lieutenant colonel, was the chief of the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Division (CIID) at the time the coup attempt broke out. Together with rebel soldiers, Bibit had ransacked the Bureau of Customs warehouse of high-powered weapons which had been confiscated by the bureau in its antismuggling campaign.

He disappeared shortly after the coup attempt was crushed and customs Commissioner Salvador Mison revealed his role in the uprising.

Bibit's arrest at an undisclosed place in Taguig was confirmed by a senior NBI agent late last night. He declined, however, to give details on the circumstances of the arrest.

The NBI source also refused to say whether anyone else was captured with Bibit. The military has offered cash rewards amounting to P10 million for the capture of known leaders of the December putsch, among them ex-Army colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

As of presstime last night, sources said NBI agents were still interrogating Bibit inside the NBI headquarters on Taft Avenue.

A member of the staff of NBI director Alfredo Lim also confirmed the arrest but he requested reporters to hold the information until today.

Bibit, a member of PMA [Philippine Military Academy] Class '72, had served as an intelligence officer of the Constabulary Security Group in Cotabato City during the Marcos regime. He later joined military officers who joined the rebellion against the Marcos dictatorship in February 1986.

He led mutinous soldiers in hijacking a Philippine Airlines plane from Cotabato City to join rebels holed up at Camp Crame but they were intercepted at the Domestic Airport in Pasay City by soldiers of the now defunct Aviation Security Command who were loyal to Marcos.

After the EDSA [Epifanio de Los Santos Avenue] Revolution, Bibit left the military service to be one of the key staff members of customs bureau chief Salvador Mison, former AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] vice chief of staff. Bibit was later promoted as customs CIID chief.

More than 100 persons were killed and over 500 others wounded when mutinous troops and some armed civilians attacked military and government installations on Dec. 1, 1989.

President Aquino has implicated politicians in the failed putsch and vowed to hunt down and punish those involved.

Denies Criminal Charges

HK1601051790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Former Philippine Constabulary Major Billy Bibit has denied auto theft and robbery charges being prepared against him and eight other companions. These charges exclude that of rebellion, which the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] will file against them before the Manila City fiscal's office. Bibit admitted to NBI chief Alfredo Lim that he participated in the December failed coup. However, he denied that he is among those who robbed and stole 5 cars during the height of the coup on 2 December. Bibit and his group are accused of robbing 36 guns from the Custom's Bureau's arsenal and 400,000 pesos from its vault. He is also accused of staging a holdup of two container vans. The former PC major, a former custom's intelligence agent, was arrested by joint operatives of the NBI and Western Police District on a raid of a rebel safehouse in Poblacion Kabaong, Barangay Tipas, Taguig last Sunday [14 January]. He is one of the 15 suspected coup leaders.

Armed Forces Chief Renato de Villa believes that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement's capability to stage another coup will weaken after Bibit's arrest.

Rebellion Charges Filed Against Coup Supporters

HK1201092790 Quezon City MALAYA in English 11 Jan 90 pp 1, 2

[By Vittorio Vitug with reports from Nestor Arellano and Butch Fernandez]

[Excerpts] A wealthy businessman, a lawyer, a journalist, a former Air Force officer, an officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA], and three others were charged with rebellion yesterday before the Department of Justice [DDJ] for alleged complicity in last month's coup attempt.

Charged by the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] before the DOJ 10-man composite team of prosecutors handling cases against civilian participants in the coup attempt were businessman Jack Rodriguez, newsman Cecilio Arillo, Marcos lawyer Rafael Recto, former Air Force Lt. Col. Eduardo "Red" Kapunan, Lito Gorospe of the defunct National Media Production Center, and Ed Castro, former passports chief of the EFA. [passage omitted]

Alfredo Lim, NBI director, said Recto, Castro, and Rodriguez appeared on videotape with the mutineers who were able to wrest control of the government-owned PTV-4 [People's Television] on Dec. 1.

Arillo and Gorospe did not figure prominently in the supposed videotape but were seen by witnesses among those who entered the television station compound.

Kapunan, one of the founding officers of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement, is also said to be on videotape being interviewed by a foreign broadcast network inside the office of Conarado "Dodie" Limcauco, PTV-4 manager.

Castro was relieved by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus in connection with what he described as high-level conspiracy in the issuance of a valid passport to businessman-industrialist Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. and members of his family which paved the way for his return.

Aurelio Trampe, head of the composite prosecution team, said six or seven witnesses are willing to testify.

He added that the videotapes provided by PTV-4 could be admissible as evidence in court [passage omitted]

Sugar Planters, Traders Allegedly Supported Coup

HK1101052390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Many sugar planters in Negros reportedly supported the rebel soldiers in the recent coup attempt against the government. They were allegedly close friends of the right-wing soldiers. This was stated in a report received by the military, which added that sugar traders also gave financial aid to the Reform the Armed Forces Movement before the launching of the bloody coup. These businessmen were said to be closely associated with former Ambassador Roberto Benedicto.

Further on Actions Against Cagayan Governor

Aquino Wants Restraining Order

HK1201115390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino directed the solicitor general to take the necessary steps to have the restraining order issued by a trial court against the suspension order of Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo overturned by the appropriate superior court. Aguinaldo was suspended for his alleged involvement in the failed coup attempt.

Tanny Rodriguez has the full report:

[Begin recording] Aguinaldo was suspended for 60 days by the Department of Local Governments for his alleged open support of rebel soldiers during the 1 December coup d'etat.

In her press statement, the president maintained that the government has been investigating Governor Aguinaldo's involvement in the failed coup attempt, adding that if necessary, he will be charged with rebellion if evidence warrants. The chief executive also said that all necessary measures to enforce and secure government action against Aguinaldo will be taken as well. [end recording]

Aquino on Subpoena

HK1501105990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Jan 90

[By Vic Pambuan from Malacanang Palace]

[Text] State Prosecutor Ferdinand Abesamis has served a subpoena on Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo based on the rebellion charge filed against the governor by Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos. This was announced by President Aquino at a press briefing in Malacanang earlier today. She also issued copies of the subpoena to members of the media.

According to the subpoena, Aguinaldo is being given 10 days to present his counteraffidavit and will have to appear before the court at 1400 on 26 January in the multi-purpose hall of the Department of Justice in Manila.

Here is an excerpt of the letter from Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon on the subpoena served on Cagayan Governor Aguinaldo as read out by the president:

[Begin Aquino recording in English] A message from Secretary Drilon. This is with regard to the Aguinaldo case. Let me read this to you.

For the president:

Per your instruction enclosed in the summons on Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo, I have sent NBI [National Bureau of Investigations] agents to personally serve the summons on him. The case is set for hearing on January 26 at 1400. Aguinaldo, under the rules, will submit his counteraffidavit, after which the case is to be submitted for resolution.

We will just give you copies of this. [end recording]

Earlier, Aguinaldo was charged with an administrative case where he was given 7 days to present his side of the story. However, Mrs Aquino stressed that Aguinaldo will be accorded due process while investigations are conducted on the cases filed against him.

Here is the president again.

[Begin recording in English] [Reporter] Santos insisted on installing Vice Governor Melvin Vargas as acting governor. Ma'am, what special measures are the government thinking of in light of Aguinaldo's defiance? And will you direct Defense Secretary Ramos and General de Villa to disarm Aguinaldo's followers who are estimated to number between 200 and 500?

[Aquino] Well, first of all, let me refer to what I read to you earlier. Secretary Drilon has already ordered NBI agents to deliver the summons to Governor Aguinaldo, and the hearing will take place on January 26 at 1400 here in Manila at the Justice Building. He is being given 10 days to answer the criminal aspect of the case. Earlier, what had been done is the administrative aspect of the case against him and under those rules, he is given 7 days within which to file his counteraffidavit. So, we will just follow due process and this is what we are doing. [end recording]

In another development, a signature campaign initiated by Senator John Osmena and some Davao politicians calling for a federal form of government is invalid. This was announced by President Corazon Aquino to newsmen at the same press briefing. She said that the priority of the present administration is not to change the form of government, but to ensure the political stability of the country. According to her, demands for changing the form of government may be addressed only in 1992, 5 years after the ratification of the Constitution in 1987.

Mrs Aquino stressed that any proposal to amend the present Constitution will require a three-fourths votes from both houses of Congress. Even if such an amendment is adopted in 1992, a plebiscite will be needed to ratify it.

The president added that she hopes Senator Osmena will convey to her the results of his action so that they can become a basis for any future decisions.

[Begin Aquino recording in English, in progress] No, there are other priorities. First of all, it is the political stability of this government and with regards to the proposal of Senator Osmena and Speaker Mitra—well, under our Constitution, it is only Congress in the first 5 years of the life of this new Constitution who can propose amendments to the Constitution. With regard to what Senator Osmena is doing now, gathering signatures, that will be applicable by 1992, 5 years after the ratification of the 1987 Constitution. So, I imagine between now and then he will be trying to get the necessary numbers of signatures in order to propose such an amendment to our Constitution. With regard to Congress, it will necessitate three-fourths of both houses of Congress proposing such an amendment and then later on, calling for a plebiscite and presenting this to the people for their approval or disapproval. [end recording]

Governor Threatens War

HK1501091390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jan 90 pp 1, 12

[By Danny C. Petilla]

[Text] Tuguegarao, Cagayan—Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo yesterday threatened to go underground and lead a guerilla war if the government suspended him from office.

He told the INQUIRER in an interview, he would stick to his post until death, if that was what his people wanted. But should he be forced out, he said he would finish the job that communist rebels have started—the elimination of "corrupt politicians."

Aguinaldo made these threats after President Aquino ordered the military to use force, if necessary, to enforce the 60-day preventive suspension ordered by the Department of Local Government [DLG].

The order was prompted by charges that Aguinaldo had given "aid and comfort" to rebellious soldiers, who mounted the bloodiest coup attempt yet against the government last month.

Last night Aguinaldo had a closed-door conference with Brig. Gen. Lisandro Abadia and Col. Emiliano Templo, who were reportedly sent by the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] high command to try to break the deadlock in Cagayan.

"We're going around to visit all military camps in Cagayan to talk to our officers and consolidate their support for the chain of command and for the national government," Templo told the INQUIRER before the meeting.

Abadia is the deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3) while Templo is chief of civil-military operations (J-7).

Templo said their visit to Cagayan was part of the military's effort to determine morale of soldiers in the province.

He denied that there was a rift among military officers in Cagayan.

But he declined to comment on reports that some Manila-based politicians have asked AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa to replace Brig. Gen. Pedro Sistoza, Recom [Regional Command] 2 chief, for allegedly supporting Aguinaldo.

Asked about reports that Aguinaldo had the full support of the military in Cagayan, Templo said: "Governor Aguinaldo is the political leader here in Cagayan. There is no reason why the Armed Forces and the political leadership should not cooperate for the protection and maintenance of peace and order in the province."

Aguinaldo said he was confident the military was behind him in his fight to keep his post.

"I have faith and confidence in the military, na hindi na sila bulag, na sila'y mulat na. Alam nila ang pinaglalaban ko dito [that they are not blind, that they have awakened. They know what I am fighting for here]," he said.

But he added that if some members of the military tried to enforce the order, he would simply go underground to avoid bloodshed.

"Ayaw ko nang patayan ng patayan ng sundalo sa sundalo, pulis sa pulis, at CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] sa CAFGU. Ayaw kong madamay ang innocent civilians dito [I do not want to have soldier kill soldier, police kill police, and CAFGU kill CAFGU. I do not want to involve innocent civilians here]," he said.

Aguinaldo said he would wage his guerilla campaign against corrupt politicians if he had the support of the people. "Sabihin lang sa akin kung ano ang gusto nila, gagawin ko para sa kanila. And hindi natapos ng NPA [New People's Army] dito, ako ang tata-pos [just tell me what they want and I'll do it for them. I will finish what the NPA started here]," he said.

Aguinaldo also called on his supporters to gather for a massive show of support today when he appears before the Cagayan Regional Trial Court in Tuguegarao to argue his suspension case.

If the people wanted him to, Aguinaldo said he would stay in office until death. "Isang minuto lang mag-pakita ang taong bayan sa capitol, marami at sabihin nila, 'Governor huwag kang aalis diyan, ikaw ang gusto namin' and I will fight for them hanggang kamatayan [If the people just show up in the capitol for one minute, if they show up in great numbers and say, 'Governor, do not leave, we support you,' then I will fight for them until death]."

Aguinaldo, a former member of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement of the Philippines (RAM), said most of the people in Cagayan would support his guerilla campaign. "Kung kailangan talagang umails ako sa kapitolyo, at ako'y mag-guerilla para ipagpatuloy ang pakikipaglaban, alam ko na ang masa, tatanggapin ako at may lalangoyan ako [If I really have to leave the capitol, I will turn to guerrilla warfare to continue my fight. I know the masses. They will accept me and I shall have their support]."

Aguinaldo said the NPA lost in Cagayan because they did not go after the dirty politicians and unscrupulous businessmen engaged in profiteering and hoarding, as well as public officials who had enriched themselves in office.

He said that unlike other politicians, he did not need people power and a human barricade to protect him.

"If they (people) tell me for one minute that they support me, they can go home and I will do the fighting for them," he said.

Later he told supporters who gathered at the capitol: "Ako ay ibinoto ninyo. Kayo naman ang ipaglalaban ko. Umuwi na kayo at magtrabaho kayo dahil mahirap ang buhay [You voted for me, and I will fight for you. Go home and work because life is hard]."

Aguinaldo also accused Speaker Ramon V. Mitra of putting pressure on RTC [Regional Trial Court] Judge Plaridekl Villacete who issued a restraining order on the DLG suspension order in his favor.

Mitra has said the government should enforce the suspension order otherwise people would take it as sign that the national leadership lacked political will.

Aguinaldo also challenged Mitra and Sen. Heherson Alvarez to come to Cagayan and see for themselves the real situation here.

"Sino ba talaga ang human rights violators, 'yung naghahabol sa NPA ba, o iyung nagpapahirap sa taong bayan sa pagnanakaw [Who are really the human rights violators—those who go after the NPA or those who steal from the people]?" Aguinaldo said.

He challenged Alvarez to a public debate as he accused the senator of amassing unexplained wealth.

"Makamasa naman siya (Alvarez) noon ah [He used to be pro-people]," Aguinaldo said. "Pero ngayon ang yamanyaman na niya. Sabihin ninyo kay Alvarez huwag na tayong magbiruan, huwag na tayong maglukohan. Siya ang alam kong maraming kayamanan ngayon [But today, he is very rich. Tell Alvarez not to play jokes or fool each other. I know that he is the one who is rich today]."

The senator, who is from Isabela in Region 2, urged the government yesterday to immediately disarm Aguinaldo and his "army" of Negritos.

Alvarez said Aguinaldo was maintaining an army of about 500 tribesmen, armed with weapons taken from the military and known as "black Shirts."

He said the army should be disbanded and its members sent back to their families to "engage in constructive livelihood activities."

Aguinaldo also said Mitra and Alvarez should stop politicking and serve their constituencies better.

"Magtrabaho sila ng maayos, at ibigay sa taong buyan ang dapat sa taong bayan [They should work hard and well, and give what the people deserve], that's what they are elected into office for. Bawasan nila ang pamumulitika sa bansa, para umunlad naman ang bayan natin [They should engage in less politicking so that our country can move forward]," Aguinaldo said over radio station dzME.

He also denied being disloyal to the government and to the Constitution saying: "Iyung tumatawag ng foreign power upang upakan ang Pilipino, iyan ang disloyalty to the government, iyan ang treason [Those who call on foreign powers to trample upon Filipinos, that is disloyalty to the government. That is treason]."

Meanwhile, the pro-administration Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] urged the government to punish Aguinaldo for rebellion.

Sen. Neptali Gonzales, LDP president, said the government should not enter into any compromise with the Cagayan governor, even as he denied trying to arrange a meeting between Aguinaldo and the President.

"I don't think there is something to talk about (between him and the President)," Gonzales said.

He said senators would not "coddle" aguinaldo because the governor had committed serious acts against the government.

Governor on Dismissal

HK1601045990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 16 Jan 90 p 10

[By Danny Petilla]

[Text] Tuguegarao—Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo yesterday said he does not expect to get justice from this governmnet, claiming it has prejudged his case and vowed to resist any move to unseat him and fight for his people who voted him into office.

"Wala akong panaginip na kindi ako sususpendihin. [I have not dreamt that I will not be suspended.] They can even expel me but I will fight, there is no turning back and I am just biding for time," Aguinaldo said.

Meanwhile, Monsignor Diosdado Talamayan, archbishop of Cagayan, appealed to President Aquino to grant Aguinaldo's wish for a dialog, saying the situation in Cagayan is creating tension among the people.

"As a spiritual father, who loved all those who live in Cagayan, I am now asking and appealing in the name of the people of Cagayan, that a genuine dialog be held among the warring political parties here, if possible with President Aquino or at least any of the Cabinet members," Bishop Talamayan told reporters.

"What I am worried about is that what is prevailing now might be the calm before the storm. The situation is causing a lot of concern and anxiety to most people. You cannot avoid people to worry if things are not solved," Talamayan said.

Aguinaldo the other day vowed to go underground and wage a guerilla war if the government forcibly booted him out of office.

"I had been fighting the wrong enemy (meaning the New People's Army) for the past 15 years, ngayon alam ko na kung sino ang [now I know the] true enemy of the people, ngayon pa ako aatras [and will I retreat?] Aguinaldo asked a group of reporters who has been covering him for the past two weeks.

Aguinaldo said communism is not the real threat facing the country but the dirty politicians, unscrupulous businessmen and corrupt government officials.

"The soldiers around the country are hearing my voice. They will rally behind me and rise up to weed out this dirty politicians," Aguinaldo said.

Aguinaldo also challenged his vice governor, Melvin Vargas, not to hide behind his political patrons in Manila and urged him to return to Cagayan to face the people and settle once and for all who between them enjoys popular support.

"Dapat umuwi na siya sa la-long madaling panahon at inip na inip na akong nag-hihintay sa kanya. Ako ay nabubwist na sa pinag-dadakdak niya sa Manila na hindi naman totoo at alam ng taong bayan iyan," [He has to return immediately because I am getting weary waiting for him. I am annoyed of the wrong things he has been saying in Manila, and the people are aware of it.] Aguinaldo said.

Based on official record at the Cagayan provincial board, Vargas has not been attending the provincial board sessions for the past ten months.

Aguinaldo, who called Vargas a shabu user and coddler of smugglers, also said he will not go to Manila to answer a subpoena issued by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, saying his lawyers can appear there in his behalf.

"They better come and get me, I cannot be threatened by court cases," Aguinaldo told his supporters.

The scheduled hearing yesterday on Aguinaldo's suspension was cancelled after Solicitor General Francisco Chavez sent a telegram to the Regional Trial Court, branch 3, presided by Judge Ventura Perez asking for postponement due to lack of time.

Aguinaldo's lawyers agreed on the postponement, however, they questioned the propriety of Chavez telegram saying it was a mere scrap of paper.

They also bewailed the alleged intervention of congressional leaders on the judicial process saying it threatens to destroy the doctrines of separation of powers under the constitution.

Rebel Attacks Reported by Manila Media

NPA Raids Quezon Hall

HK1201113990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] New People's Army [NPA] rebels today raided the municipal hall of Candelaria, Quezon. The town's policemen were taken by surprise and were not able to fight back. The attack occurred at 1245 [0445 GMT] this afternoon. According to initial reports sent to Camp Nakar, the Candelaria policemen were disarmed by the rebels. Taken from them were six M-16 and five guns. The report said that about 50 NPA's, wearing fatigue uniforms, raided the municipal building, while another NPA group attacked the public market.

Witnesses say that the rebels set up checkpoints on two bridges in Candelaria, Quezon, to prevent military reinforcements from arriving. The NPA's were reportedly riding in three passenger jeepneys and a van. They took Police Corporal Palikpik hostage in their escape, but he was freed when they reached Barangay Masalukot, Candelaria, Quezon.

A jeepney driver said in an interview that the rebels forcefully took his jeep but returned it to him at 0630 GMT the same day.

At broadcast time, government soldiers are presently searching the area for the rebels, who reportedly did not harm or kill anyone in the raid.

Police Repel Attack on Hall

HK1501080990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Jan 90 pp 1, 10

[By Lulu Principe]

[Text] San Fernando, La Union—An attempt by 100 heavily armed guerrillas of the New People's Army (NPA) to take over a town hall in Ilocos Sur was foiled recently when a group of policemen and civilians engaged the rebels in continuous fighting for three hours.

A belated report reaching the office of Brig. Gen. Miguel Abaya, Region 1 command chief, said that the government side suffered no casualties while the rebels managed to escape with five of their wounded comrades following a failed attack on the municipal hall of Burgos, Ilocos Sur.

The attack was the first to be staged by the communists in the Ilocos region following the Christmas ceasefire.

Abaya commended the six policemen and four civilians who assisted the police officers by loading ammunition into empty magazines.

Cpl. Mario Gasmen, police station commander of Burgos, said that the rebels started the attack on the building at around 11 p.m. Jan. 8 by surrounding the town hall and setting up roadblocks around the town to stop reinforcement troopers.

Gasmen said the attackers only wanted the lawmen to surrender and yield their guns.

The battle, the report said, lasted until 2:30 the following morning when the NPA rebels retreated taking with them their wounded companions, Gasmen said.

Raid on Bohol Towns Reported

HK1501131790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 15 Jan 90

[By Simon Macalos of DYRD Tagbilaran City, Bohol—live or recorded in English]

[Text] The municipalities of Trinidad and San Miguel were reportedly under siege this morning by heavily armed men believed to be communist terrorists. Unconfirmed reports reaching DYRD News Center said that the suspected rebels commandeered at least four motor vehicles, including a soft drinks delivery truck, before they swooped down on the municipal halls of the two towns almost simultaneously shortly before 1000 this morning.

Reports also indicated that the armed men ransacked a private bank in Trinidad.

A firefight between the attackers and members of the Integrated National Police [INP] and CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units] reportedly ensued but no reports of casualties on either side have been reported. Radio contact through [words indistinct] reportedly went off the air as the suspects destroyed power lines in San Miguel and Trinidad.

Reinforcement teams from Carmen-based 346th Philippine Constabulary [PC] Company and 345th PC Company in Ubay have been alerted to track down the attackers. Camp Dagohoy authorities are scheduled to issue official statements on the reported attacks sometime today. The reported attacks came a couple of hours after members of the PC-INP command, under Lieutenant Colonel Cesar Beloto, took their oath of allegiance to the Constitution this morning during ceremonies at Camp Dagohoy.

Seven Killed in Sulu

HK1501083190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Jan 90 p 10

[By Noli Cabantug]

[Text] Muslim rebels swooped down on a remote coastal village in Sulu last Thursday, killing seven persons and wounding four others, the military said yesterday.

Col. Roger Deinla, Recom [Regional Command] 9 commander, reported to PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano that the attackers, believed to be members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), raked with bullets the houses along the coast of Subuan island, Marungas, Sulu, at dusk last Thursday.

Deinla said the raiders were on board four motorized bancas.

The rebels, he said, were apparently after policemen and militiamen residing in the village.

The militia members fought the attackers for about 30 minutes. Most of the casualties were civilians caught in the crossfire, the report said.

In Cebu, communist rebels raided a prawn farm of a businessman and ransacked his house of firearms, communications equipment and an undetermined amount of cash.

Brig. Gen. Renato Palma, Visayas Command chief, said about 20 New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas stormed the Golden Harvest Prawn Farm of millionaire-businessman Jose Yu of Maria Luisa Village in Banilad, Cebu City, last Jan. 13.

The rebels hered 15 farm workers into a place and then lectured them about the "evils of the Aquino regime." They then fled to Barangay Cantumog, Carmen town, a rebel-infested area, the report said.

Base Workers Receive New Benefits in Accord

HK1201041990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 12 Jan 90 p 6

[By Roger Garcia Jr]

[Text] Olongapo City—The American government will grant thousands of Filipino workers in the U.S. military bases a package of benefits worth P96 million under a collective bargaining agreement [CBA] concluded between U.S. authorities and the base workers union yesterday.

Roberto A. Flores, president of the 22,000 strong Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Association

(FFCEA), said a majority of the political and economic rights being proposed by the union negotiating panel were granted by the American panel after almost a year of negotiations.

"We are happy to announce that the recent impasse on the CBA negotiations has finally been resolved and that the U.S. panel negotiating for a new CBA has agreed to most of the base workers' demands, particularly their political and economic rights," Flores said.

The CBA is scheduled to be signed on Wednesday.

Early last month, union representatives walked out of the negotiating table after rejecting the CBA package being offered by their American counterparts.

The deadlock was on the issue of the signing bonus and other political rights of Filipino employees working inside the U.S. military facilities in the country.

The signing bonus is extended to all direct-hire workers in the U.S. facilities in the Philippines after the CBA is formally signed between labor and management.

Direct-hire Filipino workers will receive a total of P4,339 each which includes their rice and medicine allowances.

A majority of base workers were elated over the outcome of the negotiations, according to an INQUIRER survey.

"Mabuti na lang at naayos agad ng union at management ang CBA. Marami na kasi sa amin ang natatakot na baka mauwi naman sa strike iyang usapan nilang van [it is a good thing that an agreement was reached on the CBA between the union and management. Many of us were worried that talks would end in strikes again]," said Gennie Anniversario, a worker at Subic base.

The past three CBA negotiations had resulted in strikes staged by the base workers. It was only now that the CBA was not marred by threats of a major strike.

"Although we have had a number of misunderstandings with our American counterparts during the negotiations, we were able to resolve our problems through peaceful means, unlike in the previous negotiations where there were always possibilities of a major strike," said Primo Galvez, executive vice president of the FFCEA.

Galvez also congratulated the union officials and the American panel for immediately acting to resolve the impasse last month leading to the immediate implementation of the CBA.

Thailand

Alatas Urges New Talks on Australian Peace Plan

BK1401012090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 90 p 2

[By Suphaphon Kanwirayothin]

[Text] Chiang Mai—An Australian peace proposal, which calls for the United Nations to set up an interim administration authority in Cambodia until general elections are held, should be the basis for the new round of peace talks, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said in Chiang Mai yesterday.

The Australian proposal, first raised by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, could probably "get us out of the dead centre," Mr Alatas said, referring to the interim power-sharing issue which caused the impasse at last September's Paris peace talks.

Mr Alatas added yesterday that his country was likely to announce its decision to host an informal, limited meeting on Cambodia under the framework of the Paris conference next week.

Mr Alatas said he would meet Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in Ho Chi Minh City this evening and then meet Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen tomorrow before returning to Jakarta.

The Indonesian minister met representatives of the three Cambodian resistance factions in Bangkok last week.

He met Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in Chiang Mai on Friday.

"I have to get everyone's concensus.

"If France and all parties agree, I will announce (the holding of the informal, limited meeting) in Jakarta next week.

Participants in the informal meeting are expected to be ASEAN, Laos, Vietnam, the four Cambodian factions and France.

With a strong possibility of the Australian proposal being taken up at the imminent round of Cambodian talks in Jakarta, one ASEAN diplomat said there was real progress now that Vietnam and Phnom Penh had accepted an enhanced United Nations role in a political settlement based on the proposal.

The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council will meet in Paris tomorrow where they will, presumably, for the first time examine the Australian proposal.

The diplomat, who monitors Indochina affairs, said the meeting of the five superpowers—the United Kingdom, the United States, France, China and the Soviet Union—would be useful because, in the end, Security Council support was needed for any involvement in the settlement.

Australia's special envoy, Michael Costello, who has travelled around Indochina to sound out relevant parties on the peace plan, will meet United Nations officials in New York for consultations on technical details of the proposal.

If accepted and implemented, the United Nations "will run a government for the first time" under this unique proposal, the diplomat said.

The plan must involve skilful crafting because it bears considerable implications for the rival parties—Phnom Penh on the one hand and the Cambodian resistance on the other.

At this stage, the diplomat said, no one knew under the Australian plan whether the Phnom Penh regime would be completely set aside or would remain partly in office during the UN trusteeship.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the militarily-strong Khmer Rouge have said they would not accept the plan if the Hun Sen Government remained, the diplomat said.

The fate of the Phnom Penh regime during the transition period was likely to be sorted out at the Jakarta meeting, the diplomat said.

Sitthi Comments on Cambodia Issue, PRC Situation

BK1201123990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, the foreign minister, briefed newsmen at the Foreign Ministry this morning on the efforts being made to resolve the Cambodian problem. He said that he shared Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas' view that there have been new developments regarding the attitudes of all the sides concerned that will be attending the informal meeting on Cambodia in Jakarta, Indonesia in February. After meeting the representatives of the tripartite coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea in Bangkok, Alatas will proceed to Ho Chi Minh City to meet Hun Sen in order to set the date for the meeting. The deputy foreign ministerial-level meeting of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council—the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, and China—to be held in Paris next Monday and Tuesday [15-16 January] may help settle the Cambodian problem by pressuring the Khmer factions to stop fighting.

The Thai foreign minister also commented on China's decision to lift the martial law that has been in force since last May. The decision was announced on television by Chinese Premier Li Peng on Wednesday [10 January]. The Thai foreign minister said that the announcement shows that the Chinese Government is able to administer the country smoothly. This will benefit China because it will improve the Chinese economy.

Chatchai Predicts New Cambodia Talks in Jakarta

BK1301012990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jan 90 p 1

[By Atthawibun Sisuworanan in Chiang Mai]

[Text] Indonesia will host a new round of talks on the Cambodian conflict in late February as there is hope that peace efforts can now succeed, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said here yesterday.

The premier announced the possibility of a Jakarta meeting after talking with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who is attending the Williamburg Conference of security and international relations experts now underway in Chiang Mai.

Chatchai quoted Alatas as saying that Thailand's peace efforts after the failure of the Paris conference on Cambodia last August would soon bear fruit.

Alatas said the exact dates of the conference, which would be organized under the framework of the Paris conference, would not be declared until he meets with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in Ho Chi Minh City on Sunday.

Alatas met with leaders of the three Cambodian resistance factions in Bangkok early this week.

The informal talks in Jakarta would be attended by representatives from Asean countries, Vietnam, Laos, the four Cambodian factions and France, the co-chairman of the Paris conference, Alatas was quoted as saying.

Chatchai said that with reconvention of peace talks in the works, Thailand's effort to bring the Cambodian factions together to talk was met.

"Thailand will not do anything in between, except to prepare itself to attend the meeting," he said.

Besides Alatas, Chatchai also met yesterday with Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, Australian Permanent Secretary to the Foreign Minister Richard Woolcott and Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar.

Chatchai said that Co had brought him good wishes from the Vietnamese leadership, and they had discussed Cambodia, but declined to elaborate.

Chatchai and his wife left Chiang Mai for Bangkok yesterday afternoon.

Chatchai, Ryzhkov To Sign Agreements Next Month

BK1201083790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jan 90 p 4

[Text] Two bilateral agreements will be signed during Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov's visit to Thailand February 11-12, according to a government spokesman.

Suwit Yomani said the agreements to be signed between Ryzhkov and his Thai counterpart Chatchai Chunhawan will cover cultural, scientific and academic cooperation, and exchange of satellite and lignite mining technology.

Informed sources said both sides will also discuss the possibility of a reciprocal exchange of land for permanent diplomatic missions in the two countries.

Ryzhkov will also hold talks with Chatchai and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila on the Cambodian conflict and other regional and bilateral issues. A joint communique will be issued during the visit, the sources said.

On the top of the agenda for bilateral talks are trade and investment questions, including the easing of visa restrictions on Soviet businesses and trade officials.

"Thailand would like to expand trade cooperation with the Soviet Union and to promote business contact between the private sectors of the two nations," according to Suwit.

He said that the Soviet premier will also meet the Thai private sector to discuss the expansion of agricultural investment.

Ryzhkov will make official visits to Singapore and Australia after leaving Thailand. His visit is a reciprocal trip following a tour of the Soviet Union by former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon in 1988.

Ties between the two countries have been strengthened recently by two royal visits last year, over five ministerial-level tours and numerous visits by businessmen.

Ryzhkov's visit, the first by such a senior Soviet leader, was postponed twice, first by the devastating earthquake in Armenia last February and later in the year by a congress of the Communist Party.

Phalang Tham Party Sweeps Bangkok Elections

BK1501014290 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] The Phalang Tham Party, buoyed by its victory in the city governor and assembly elections last week, thrashed its opponents again in city polling yesterday by increasing its Bangkok district council seats from 19 to 184 of the 220 up for grabs in local elections.

Bangkokians passively acknowledged yesterday's polls and according to the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, the voter turnout was only 17.66 per cent. The turnout was 0.74 per cent lower than the 18.40 per cent in the last district council elections in November 1985.

The sweep of the 184 district council posts came after 700,000-plus city residents voted Phalang Tham leader Chamlong Simuang Bangkok governor for a second term and 50 Phalang Tham candidates were elected to the 57-seat Bangkok city assembly last Sunday.

It is also the second defeat Phalang Tham has delivered to the previously dominant Democrat Party, whose members held the majority on the city assembly and district councils since the November 1985 elections.

Apart from the 184 district council seats won by Phalang Tham yesterday, 16 went to the Prachakon Thai Party, nine to the Democrats, seven to the Social Action Party (SAP) and four to Muan Chon Party.

The Democrats held 113 of the total 198 seats in the preceding district councils while Prachakon Thai held 47, Phalang Tham 19 with 19 others held by independents.

The other Bangkok district of Nong Chok saw the highest voter turnout with about 53 percent while Ratthewi district had the lowest voter turnout with only 11 per cent.

Yesterday's electiosns were held in 29 of the 36 Bangkok districts. Fifty-three councillors of the other seven district were already elected in early December after the former councillors resigned "en masse" in November.

Of all the 53 councillors of the seven district, 46 are from Phalang Tham and seven from Prachakon Thai.

Yesterday's victory brought Palang Tham's total district council seats to 230 and Prachakon Thai's to 23.

The number of eligible voters in the 29 districts is at about 2.47 million and 436,665 of them exercised their voting rights. About 2.8 per cent of the ballots were declared invalid with faulty marking.

A total of 866 candidates vied for 220 district council seats in the polls yesterday. Phalang Tham fielded 220 candidates while Prachakon Thai put up 212 candidates. The Democrat Party had 198 candidates and Muan Chon Party fielded 117 candidates. Thirty-five candidates were from the SAP with the remaining 84 standing as independents.

District councils are local legislative bodies that monitor district officials' work by auditing district offices' annual spending and recommending essential local development projects.

Chamlong yesterday described Phalang Tham's success in the district polls as a reflection of people's appreciation of the party's political ideals.

Democrat Party deputy poll manager Phichit Rattakun conceded defeat to Phalang Tham last night before the official announcement of election results.

Phichit said Phalang Tham decisively won the elections yesterday after landslide wins last week probably because people were more interested in the party's politically clean image than that of any other group.

Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharawet, meanwhile, calmly acknowledged his party's defeat to Phalang Tham yesterday saying he was satisfied with the poll results.

Samak said unlike the results of the elections last week, yesterday's results showed a fair fight between the political parties, uncontested by strong individual personalities.

Thai Villagers Ready To Flee Burmese Fighting

BK1601023990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] Chiang Mai—Thai villagers living near the Burmese border have been told to be prepared for an evacuation in anticipation of possible spillover of fighting between drug kingpin Khun Sa's Shan rebels and the combined forces of the Wa National Army [WNA] and the Burmese Communist Party [BCP].

Para-military ranger forces from the Third Army Region have been despatched to Ban Arunothai in Chiang Dao District to provide protection for Thai villagers there as fighting between the two Burmese rebel factions raged near the border.

On Sunday, Shan rebels fought the combined forces of WNA and BCP on five fronts with mortar and automatic gunfire.

A few mortar shells strayed across the border and smashed into the outskirts of Ban Arunothai, but no one was injured.

Thai military sources said yesterday about 400 Shan rebels attacked a WNA outpost which was defended by about 30 Wa troops in a bid to capture them and hand them over to Thai authorities.

The Shans believe the Wa rebels recently shot dead six Thai villagers in Ban Wiang Haeng and put the blame on the Shans, sources said.

Army General Survives Helicopter Crash

BK1301042090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0405 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 13 (AFP)—A top Thai Army general and eight others, who went missing Friday in a helicopter caught in a rainstorm in southern Thailand, survived an emergency crash-landing in the jungle, an Army officer said Saturday.

The officer, attached to the the 4th Army Region headquarters in Nakhon Si Thammarat, said region commander Lieutenant-General Yuttana Yaemphand and all others aboard the Bell helicopter had been found early Saturday.

Lt. Gen. Yuttana, 57, his wife Yongpimon, three aide-de-camps, and four crewmen were found by an Army search team as they were making their way from the crash site to the nearest village, said the officer in Nakhon Si Thammarat, 780 kilometers (480 miles) south of here.

Vietnam

Pledge Renewed Not To Send Troops to Cambodia

BK1301011090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jan 90 p 2

[Atthawibun Sisuworanan in Chiang Mai]

[Text] Despite worry over the recent Khmer Rouge offensive against the western town of Battambang, Vietnam will never send troops back into Cambodia, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co said here yesterday.

Speaking to reporters after meeting with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, Co admitted that the guerrilla group's activities around the Cambodian provincial seat had intensified lately.

"But we've withdrawn. We'll never come back," he said.

One of three Vietnamese consular offices in Cambodia with five officials is located in Battambang, Co said.

The deputy foreign minister is in Chiang Mai to attend the 18th Williamsburg Conference on international relations and security.

Commenting on the Cambodian peace process, Co said that Vietnam had already made several concessions to bring about a new round of peace talks and could not make any more, particularly on the question of a Khmer Rouge role in a future Cambodian government.

Prime Minister Chatchai announced yesterday that new talks were likely to be held in Jakarta as prospects for peace efforts were improving.

Co also expressed hope for a Cambodian settlement when asked about the meeting in Paris on Sunday of the members of the UN security council, who will discuss an Australian proposal to allow the United Nations to govern Cambodia until elections are held.

But Co was pessimistic about the prospect for compromise among the Cambodian factions, saying that Prince Norodom Sihanouk was developing closer ties with the Khmer Rouge.

Cambodia's Hun Sen Arrives Ho Chi Minh City

BK1301151890 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 13—Hun Sen, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea (P.R.P.K.) Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, arrived in Ho Chi Minh City this afternoon on a working visit at the invitation of Nguyen Co Thach, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister. He was welcomed on arrival by Nguyen Co Thach and other Vietnamese officials, and Sous Samnang, Cambodian consul-general in Ho Chi Minh City.

Also this afternoon, Nguyen Co Thach and Hun Sen exchanged views on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern as well as the Cambodian question. Their talks proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and fraternal friendship, during which both sides were identical of views on all issues under discussion.

Chairman Hun Sen was accompanied by Minister Hor Nam Hong and other senior Cambodian officials.

Interviewed by VNA 14 Jan

BK1401152990 Hanoi VNA in English 1453 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 14—Upon his arrival in Ho Chi Minh City today, [as received] Cambodian Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen gave the following interview to VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY:

Question: A few days ago, Western media reported that during your address to the Cambodian people, you admitted heavy losses on the battlefields of Battambang Province and western Cambodia which necessitated urgent general mobilization. Could you elaborate on this question?

Answer: That was an incorrect interpretation by the Western media which contradicted what I had actually said. During my visit to the provinces of Prey Veng and Svay Rieng from the 2nd to the 7th of January 1990, I addressed the population at eleven places and at different times totalling more than 100,000 people. In those places, I explained the difficulties of the past eleven years in which Cambodia started from scratch and went through a situation where war and peace coexist. This war has been costly in terms of lives and resources of the people and impeded national reconstruction. This situation is different from what it was during the 16 years of national reconstruction under Prince Sihanouk during which he inherited the continuity and benefited greatly from foreign assistance to rebuild the country in peace. I also informed our population that the war is not yet over, a political solution has not yet been found even after Vietnam's volunteer Army has withdrawn from Cambodia. The responsibility of national defence and of preventing the return of the Pol Pot regime now rests entirely with the Cambodian people. Therefore, all citizens have to discharge their duty towards the nation. Young men doing their military service is the normal duty of citizens of any country. Even those countries at peace in the world must have an army in which young men must perform their duty as soldiers for a short or long period, depending on the law of each country. This statement of mine does not mean a general mobilization order nor is it meant to place the country under the state of emergency. It is only normal that we address our people that way in implementation of our responsibility toward national defence.

It is regrettable that some people have wrongly interpreted my statement.

Meets Ali Alatas; Departs

BK1501152590 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 15—Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs of Cambodia, had a consultative meeting in Ho Chi Minh City with Ali Alatas, Indonesian foreign minister, chairman of the Jakarta informal meeting (JIM) and co-chairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, on the latter's proposal.

The meeting took place during a working visit to the city by the Cambodian leader.

While there, Hun Sen, who is also Political Bureau member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, also had a cordial consultation with Nguyen Co Thach, Politburo member of the CPV Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister.

This afternoon Hun Sen and his party left for home. They were seen off by Nguyen Co Thach and Pham Chanh Truc, vice mayor of the city; and Sous Samnang, Cambodian general consul in the city.

Nguyen Co Thach Favors UN Role in Cambodia

BK1401122890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1218 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Jan 14 (AFP)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said here Sunday that he favored a U.N. role in Cambodia, where he said no "substantial" problems remained in the path toward peace.

"If everyone concentrates efforts on two main issues-...the general elections and the neutrality of Cambodia, we can solve non-substantial ones, the U.N. role and interim authority," Mr. Thach said.

Mr. Thach, speaking to foreign reporters here, said that talks on Cambodia in Paris last August "solved almost all basic issues and substantial issues and left only the interim authority in the transitional period and the role of the United Nations."

"These problems are very short term and not substantial ones," he said.

Mr. Thach said he favored a role in Cambodia for the United Nations, which recognizes the resistance as the legitimate government of Cambodia.

He added that if agreement could be reached on the conditions of free elections, Cambodia's problems would be solved, but he repeated his opposition to presence of the Khmer Rouge resistance faction in the United Nations.

Mr. Thach welcomed Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas here Sunday and was to hold talks with him later in the day.

On Saturday, Mr. Thach met with Cambodian Premier Hun Sen.

Mr. Alatas, who arrived here Sunday from Thailand, is to hold talks with Mr. Hun Sen Monday morning and then brief Mr. Thach on the meeting before returning to Jakarta in the afternoon.

Mr. Alatas, who is to sound out Mr. Hun Sen and Mr. Thach on the question of attending informal talks on Cambodia in Jakarta in February, met in Bangkok last week with Thailand's foreign minister and leaders of the three [Cambodian] resistance factions.

Asked about his participation in such talks, Mr. Thach said: "Yes, if there could be a conference I would be there."

Mr. Alatas favors an informal conference before the resumption of the Paris talks, which ended inconclusively.

Indonesia has already held two rounds of informal talks, the first in July 1988 and the second last February.

This time, at the suggestion of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, Jakarta has proposed reuniting all parties involved in the conflict, including the four warring factions, plus non-communist Southeast Asia and France.

Alatas Hopes for Cambodia Meeting 'Next Month'

BK1501070690 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The Indonesian foreign minister, Mr Ali Alatas, says he is confident that a meeting of Cambodian factions is likely to take place in Jakarta next month. Speaking during a visit to Vietnam, Mr Alatas said it appeared to him that most of the parties directly concerned with the Cambodian conflict would want to attend the informal meeting.

His statement came before a meeting with the Vietnamese foreign minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, in Ho Chi Minh City.

The Indonesian foreign minister was due later to meet the Vietnamese-backed prime minister in Cambodia, Mr Hun Sen.

REUTER news agency says the Jakarta talks have been prompted by a growing concern that the Khmer Rouge, accused of the deaths of up to 1 million Cambodians when in power in the 1970's, is poised for a possible return to power.

The Australian special envoy on Cambodia, Mr Michael Costello, has just completed a mission to Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Bangkok, Paris, and Washington to present Australia's proposal to restart Cambodian peace negotiations.

This envisages a United Nations administration of Cambodia pending free elections and the vacating of the UN seat currently held by the Cambodian resistance coalition.

Indonesia's Ali Alatas Concludes 2-Day Visit

BK1501152990 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 15—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas left Ho Chi Minh City this afternoon, concluding a two-day working visit as guest of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

On their arrival yesterday afternoon, Ali Alatas, his wife, Ambassador to Vietnam Aswimarno and other Indonesian diplomats were received by Pham Chanh Trung, vice mayor of Ho Chi Minh City.

Also yesterday afternoon, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his Indonesian counterpart held talks on their two countries' relations, the Cambodian and other issues of common concern. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerity.

Leaving the city, Ali Alatas and his party were seen off by Nguyen Co Thach, Pham Chanh Truc and other Vietnamese senior officials.

PRC Border Residents Hope for Friendship Noted

OW1501060590 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 13 Jan 90

["This Spring in Mong Cai" from the "Vietnamese-Chinese Friendship" program]

[Excerpts] Mong Cai, a town in Hai Ninh County, Quang Ninh Province, in Vietnam, and Dongxing Town of

Fangcheng County, Guangxi, in China, are only separated by a river. [passage omitted]

Local residents say that the song "Vietnam, China," composed by Vietnamese musician (Thuyunh), is so realistic and vivid and so deeply loved by people because it portrays Vietnamese - Chinese friendship by presenting this locality and the feelings of the people on the two banks of the river. People who have lived in Mong Cai or Dongxing will always remember these places no matter where they go. Even though there have been ups and downs in the relations between Vietnam and China, people are invaribly filled with emotion whenever they hear the song "Vietnam, China." [passage omitted]

In the marketplace of Mong Cai, we can see visitors from China's Dongxing Town. Ships loaded with goods from (Jiangping), (Zhushan), (Naliang), and Fangcheng on the Chinese side come across Beilun He to Mong Cai to do business, and when they return, they bring Vietnamese goods to China. [passage omitted]

This spring, old residents of Mong Cai have often talked about the stories of Vietnamese and Chinese border people fighting in unity to deal blows at the French aggressors and the Kuomintang reactionaries. They often recall that during 1947 to 1949 the armed forces of the two countries coordinated with each other to annihilate the reactionary Kuomintang troops in Shiwan Dashan and in the area of (Zhushan) and (Jiangping). [passage omitted]

In this new spring, Mong Cai is a scene of joy and bustling activity. Trade is thriving between the two sides after a decade of separation. However, the wish of the residents on the two sides is not limited to this. Their greatest wish is to establish sustained and consolidated peace, friendship, and cooperation.

To achieve this, the most urgent task is to resume the Vietnamese - Chinese talks, as proposed by Vietnam, so as to solve differences and then to normalize the relations between the two countries and restore their friendship, which is like the morning sun. It should be noted that Mong Cai and Dongxing are the birthplace of the song of friendship "Vietnam, China."

Italian Minister Interviewed on Cooperation

BK1101111990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 5 Jan 90

[Text] Following a news conference in Hanoi on 26 December on his 4-day official visit to Vietnam, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis granted an interview to VNA on the prospects for economic cooperation between Italy and Vietnam in both the private and state sectors.

Mr Gianni De Michelis said: Before leaving Rome for Vietnam, I already had a number of meetings with Italian businessmen. I can say that some components of the Italian private economic sector now see real benefits in economic cooperation with and direct investment in Vietnam. On the basis of our cooperative relations at governmental level, Italian officials concerned are striving to promote this trend through the use of low-interest loans, export insurance services, and other measures. We all know that economic relations and cooperation between Italy and Vietnam are still low, but I am convinced that after my visit and particularly after the first session of the Italy-Vietnam Joint Commission on Cooperation, which is expected to be held in Rome in April 1990, we will be able to improve our relations in a more suitable manner.

Speaking on his impression of his visit, Mr Gianni De Michelis said: This was the first visit to Vietnam and I have mixed impressions. At present, perhaps Vietnam is facing many difficulties, especially in the economic field. However, the Vietnamese people are very dynamic, both politically and socially. I also think that you will be able to find a solution to your present dificulties because you are very rich in manpower. In our time, manpower is the greatest source of wealth, and Vietnam has very large numbers of well educated and highly skilled young people.

Chairman Do Muoi Addresses Judicial Conference

BK1301084890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 Jan 90

["Excerpt" from Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi's address at 3-5 January conference of the Justice Ministry—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear Comrades: The year 1989 was marked by positive changes in the socioeconomic life of our country and in the struggle to carry out renovation in accordance with the spirit of the sixth party congress resolution. Recapitulating the juridical tasks under the renovated conditions is a matter of great significance, both theoretically and practically. I therefore think there should be time for careful discussion so as to correctly assess the real status of juridical operations in the old system and, at the same time, to point out the acute contradictions to be settled and the new requirements raised in everyday life. On this basis, the conferees will set the basic orientations for juridical operations in the coming years in accordance with the renovation requirements of the sixth party congress resolution and subsequent resolutions of the party Central Committee plenums.

With such a recapitulative viewpoint, I fully concur with the report presented by the ministry before the conference, and I warmly welcome the achievements of the judiciary over the recent past. At the same time, I also realize that there are still many complicated problems to be solved in the judiciary. On this occasion, I would like to make some suggestions in this area for us to reflect on.

First of all is the assessment of the situation—the new situation, of course—of judicial activities amidst changes in the management mechanism. What is important here is the success in generally reviewing the new experiences, new models, and new working methods in line with the viewpoints and lines of the sixth party congress.

With respect to the Ministry of Justice, I think that it is necessary to sum up the experiences in the truly new fields of operations that have begun in recent years; for example, the administration of the bar association, the organization of state notaries, the authentication of vital statistics, legal services, or those issues that have long seen real difficulties—such as the question of who can rationally and effectively administer local tribunals. If the judiciary was charged with administering these tribunals in a closed method, what would be the consequences? These are what you should analyze to arrive at conclusions derived from real experiences.

I, for one, think that in the current conditions of our country, the fact that the Ministry of Justice is organizationally administering local tribunals is aimed at creating conditions for tribunals to concentrate on their adjudicative tasks and to judge in accordance with law. Evidently, if there still are some irrational points, both sides must coordinate with each other closely to settle them.

Regarding the judicial guidelines, duties, and tasks, I agree with the issues raised in the ministry's report. Nevertheless, I think that the judiciary, together with other branches concerned in interior affairs, should work more intensively and surge forward in order to be sufficiently capable of solving major problems raised in the course of renovation in our country.

Here I would like to raise some questions that I consider important and pressing, being related to the judicial operations, which should be clarified not only from the theoretical standpoint but also from the practical organizational standpoint.

First of all, the lesson learned from recent real situations is to continue the renovation undertaking, of which the true nature is democratizing the life of the state and society. As a result, in the current course of renovation in the judiciary as well as other branches, two points should be clarified: Everyone should be made to truly understand the democratic nature of our state, that is, the state of the people, from the people, and for the people; and we should not cover up the democratic nature of our state because of some imminent weaknesses and shortcomings.

In their organizational and other practical activities, state organs must keep abreast of the people's demands and aspirations and of the state policies. Their activities must reflect the basic interests of the people of various strata and of various ethnic minority groups. Following the Sixth Party Congress, we have striven to improve the organization and activities of the state apparatus in this direction. Our efforts have been clearly demonstrated through many activities of the National Assembly as well as through the recent election of people's councils at various levels. Naturally, renovating the state apparatus is a complex matter for which we must adopt appropriate and steady steps.

In the Marxist-Leninist theory about the state, we find the organic relationship between the state and the law. So long as there is a state, there is law. All the laws belong to the state, and they are the two sides of a ruling process of the class that rules over the society. To manage our country through the law, it is necessary to build and perfect our country's legal system. What is of great significance here is that we must form a strategic line for establishing laws. This is an important function of the ministry. In the years to come, we will have to build a legal system in such a way as to cope with the now-changing situation at home and the eventful situation abroad.

On the basis of new socialist thinking, what characteristics should the legal system have to maintain its traditional and contemporary characters? For instance, socialist law must bear scientific and profound humanitarian characters. Its democratic character must guarantee the harmony between the rights and obligations of citizens. And the socialist law must truly serve mankind. This is precisely an important concept of Karl Marx about the law. For us, such concepts must be applied consistently in the process of establishing laws as well as law enforcement.

The problem of forming a strategic line for law establishing is of great significance for each country. You comrades must commit yourselves to studying this problem. In the near future, our party will adopt a program of action. On the basis of the party's program of action, I hope that you comrades will promptly come up with a strategic line for law establishing in our country. Regarding the party's program of action and its strategic conceptions as a foundation, you comrades must reexamine the system of old legal documents and build a new legal system that must differ from the period when state subsidization was applied, so as to ensure the dynamic development of democracy.

It is noteworthy that to be able rule over the entire society, the law must bear a scientific character without tolerating flexibility. Realistic experience shows that to ensure the scientific character in law establishing, we must first pay adequate attention to those social affairs that have something to do with the law and to the relationship between politics and law. More specifically, we must pay attention to the relationship between policies and law. Here, policies are the contents, and the law is an institutionalization of policies. Therefore, one of the requirements for institutionalization is not to allow the law to disagree with party guidelines and policies. Only when party policies are correct can we build the law properly and scientifically.

As to the relationship between economics and law, we know that the law is established on a certain economic basis. Therefore, the scope of legal activity cannot exceed the level of economic and cultural development of our society. Recently we have had a number of stipulations that do not suit the economic conditions permitted. These are subjective and willful manifestations in law establishing. On the other hand, there are also indications of obsolete and unrevised laws adversely affecting economic development.

As for the relationship between morality and law, it can be said that morality and law share the same function of readjusting social relations. Consequently, in their process of evolution, they are interrelated. There are legal stipulations that reflect popular moral principles. But morality has helped people direct themselves along requirements of legal stipulations, and once morality declines it usually entails the phenomena of widespread law violations. These points must be taken into account when building and enforcing the law.

Building a legal system on the basis of new socialist thinking is something that should not be oversimplified. However, whether or not this law is observed by society is an important matter. Here I have something to say about socialist legislation: At present in the world, people are returning to the concept of state rule, the most important nature of which is to recognize the rule of law over the entire society. Whether this concept will be applied in the country is another matter. Scientists must study this matter. But evidently, enhancing legislation in our country is a pressing, objective demand, especially in the current socioeconomic situation. This means that everyone is required to comply with the law. And all the laws, the Constitution, and decrees must be observed. "Everyone" implies all the people, including those working for state organs; all government officials, whatever their positions, must observe the law and must be dealt with through the law. Failure to do this will result in anarchy.

The observance of the law must become a system for the entire society. This will help eliminate indications of departmentalism and localism, in order to create a unified strength for the entire country.

All aforementioned points involve the question of judicial cadres. When speaking about judicial cadres, we should speak about the two fundamental areas—that is, their behavioral quality and their competence. Here are some problems that you comrades should study. In broadening training facilities for judicial cadres, what methods should we use to ensure quick and effective results? In the predicatory propagation of the law, it is necessary to go deep into each target individual and each age group and to use appropriate and diverse methods. The judicial science research organization in our country has many establishments specialized in conducting research in this field. But, as far as I know, this organization is still scattered and its personnel are thinly spread out. We must reorganize it in such a way as to ensure the success of judicial science research. We must broaden our international cooperation judicially on the basis of fully understanding our party and state guidelines and policies on foreign relations.

The last problem is to renovate party leadership over the cause of building the state and the law. What is now important is that we must urge party organizations and party members to comply with the law. The true nature of the problem is to urge party members to correctly resolve the relationship between communists and the law. As citizens, party members must observe the state law; and as the most self-conscious persons, party members must exemplarily enforce the law. As pioneering fighters, party members must be the most enthusiastic to take part in the struggle to guard against violation and to preserve the law. As for party committee echelons, the party must renovate its leadership over organizational work and other activities. Law enforcement organs must introduce the requirements for law enforcement into party activities and must regard this as a standard for evaluating party members. This is a standard for new men and new socialist culture.

Council Communique on 10 Jan Session Issued

BK1201021290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Communique on the Council of State's 10 January session]

[Text] On 10 January, the Council of State met under the direction of Chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. The Council of State heard a report by the National Assembly chairman on the results of the National Assembly's recent sixth session, and noted that the session was held and functioned under a renovative, democratic spirit and achieved fine success. The National Assembly heatedly debated and passed many resolutions and some important laws, thereby manifesting the will and aspirations of people throughout the country.

The Council of State requests that from the very first months of the year, all echelons and sectors concentrate all-out efforts on promptly implementing all National Assembly resolutions, aiming at scoring new achievements in 1990.

2. The Council of State passed the regulation on economic arbitration. Promulgation of this regulation is aimed at satisfying the need to renovate the mechanism of economic management and ensure the efficacy of the economic contract system, thus helping to firmly maintain order and discipline and intensifying the socialist legal system in economic activities.

3. Based on views contributed by National Assembly deputies, the Council of State discussed and decided on the legislative program for 1990.

To implement the National Assembly's resolution on socioeconomic development tasks for 1990, legislative work remains very heavy. The Council of State decided on the things that must be done to accelerate and further improve legislative work, aiming at satisfactorily carrying out the program already outlined.

The Council of State also decided on matters that it would supervise and control in 1990, and on its work program for the first half of 1990. Meanwhile, the Council of State entrusted the Nationalities Council and other National Assembly standing committees with outlining programs of action for supervising and inspecting implementation of the National Assembly's resolutions in accordance with their functions and duties.

4. At the request of the Council of Ministers chairman, the Council of State decided to promote the military rank of two comrades—Doan Khue, vice minister of national defense and chief of the Vietnam People's Army General Staff, and Comrade Nguyen Quyet, director of the Vietnam People's Army General Political Department—from senior lieutenant general to general.

5. The Council of State appointed Comrade Nguyen Hoa, vice chairman of the National Assembly Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee, as acting chairman of the committee.

Vo Chi Cong Addresses Control Meeting

BK1501143390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Jan 90

["Excerpt" from Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong's address at "recent" people's organs of control sector conference—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear Comrades: On behalf of the party and the state, I cordially welcome you to this people's organs of control sector conference to review the sector's work performance in 1989 and to discuss its program of actions for 1990.

In 1989, the people's organs of control sector made many efforts and scored a number of fine results.

In furtherance of a resolution adopted by the conference on maintenance of public security and social order, the Supreme People's Organ of Control promptly worked out an implementation plan for the entire control sector and took the initiative in convening an interministerial conference of leading officials of the interior, court, judiciary, and control sectors to work out common guidelines on crime fighting and prevention for the localities. Thanks to good implementation, a number of localities have successfully reduced the crime rate and made initial results in restoring public security and social order. All of you have contributed to promoting the legal literacy campaign and to motivating the masses to respond to the crime fighting and prevention drive.

The year 1989 marks the first year of implementing the penal code. In this connection, the control sector has made joint efforts with the various branches of the internal affairs department to make arrests and conduct investigations, prosecutions, and trials in a timely manner and in accordance with the law.

The Supreme People's Organ of Control has requested the director general of the State Bank and the ministries concerned to take measures against violations so as to restore order and guarantee respect for regulations governing the management of business and production operations. The entire sector has recovered tens of billions of dong for the state budget. On behalf of the party and the state, I warmly commend cadres and personnel of the people's organs of control sector for their efforts and achievements in 1989.

Nonetheless, compared to the function and duties of the control sector as defined by the Constitution, many shortcomings and weaknesses still exist. Control work has been renovated; nevertheless, judged from renovative standpoints, no drastic measures have been adopted to renovate thinking and work styles. Instead of being all-inclusive, control work has affected only a limited number of economic sectors. Violations have been discovered in many important fields and sectors, but no action has been taken against them. Even with those sectors already subjected to the inspection of the control sector, many violations and crimes have gone unpunished. This is particularly true with economic violations.

Moreover, there still exist cases of innocent people being subjected to legal action. No appropriate methods have been devised to promote legal literacy among cadres and the people or to motivate the masses to participate in crime fighting and prevention.

Generally speaking, no strong measures have been taken to build the sector. Efforts to improve professionalism do not match with the requirements of the situation and tasks. In certain places, there is still much room for improvement when it comes to cadre training and management. The rate of control cadres violating discipline and the law is higher compared with the past years.

It is my hope that you will avail yourselves of this conference to thoroughly discuss measures for overcoming those shortcomings and weaknesses.

Dear Comrades: Now that we have entered 1990, we have very heavy and complicated socioeconomic tasks to carry out. In 1989 we effected positive changes on the socioeconomic front. These achievements must be credited to the party's renovative lines. However, the economy is still rife with many great difficulties. Many serious socioeconomic problems should have been resolved. The new management mechanism has not been applied uniformly. No prompt efforts have been made to build the legal system. The management of state affairs is lax. There still exists a lack of respect for discipline and the law. Bureaucratism, corruption, and disrespect for citizens' basic rights still prevail.

In order to fulfill their tasks for 1990, the people's organs of control sector in general and procurators and control cadres in particular should gain a more profound knowledge of the sixth party congress resolution and the various resolutions of the party Central Committee and the National Assembly. Continued efforts are needed to vigorously renovate control work and improve the quality of the contingent of procurators.

In performing the control task we must closely follow the socioeconomic duties and objectives of the country in order to determine our work program and plan. We must supervise definitively the targeted work in each case and pay attention to controlling those major economic sectors still rife with violations. Through control, we should positively and actively cooperate with economic sectors to remove difficulties and problems in production and business and, at the same time, help these sectors operate in accordance with the state law and avoid benefit losses for the state and people.

In recent years, in compliance with the party's renovation line, the legislative work of our state has been accelerated step by step. Two major codes and dozens of laws and regulations have been promulgated. In coming years, laws will be promulgated more expeditiously. If we want to strengthen the socialist legal system, we should first of all have laws. However, once laws have been promulgated, the extremely important task will then be to organize the scrupulous implementation of laws, ensuring that each stipulation and each text of law are strictly respected and implemented by all state agencies, social and economic organizations, and all citizens. Therefore, the function of controlling law enforcement of the entire control sector as well as of each controlling cadre is all the more important.

Only by urgently renovating its viewpoint, organization, working and building methods, and by strengthening its forces, can the control sector fulfill its function and mission. In 1990, the control sector should continue to coordinate even more closely with all the sectors in the interior affairs group and effectively implement the Fourth National Assembly resolution on the assurance of security, order, and public safety in order to immediately stem the developing crime situation which is complicating things.

The control sector should continue to scrupulously enforce the criminal procedure code; closely control all cases of arrest, detention , investigation, prosecution and adjudication; and determine not to let any criminal escape while being extremely careful not to unjustly accuse the innocent.

Faced with the current renovation requirements, the supreme people's organ of control and local people's organs of control must strive to best fulfill their function of controlling law enforcement and use their right to prosecute, ensuring that laws can be scrupulously and uniformly enforced countrywide. It is necessary to correctly establish the relations between the local people's organs of control and the party committee echelons, the people's councils and the people's committees at all levels. These relations as yet have been unsatisfactory, thus limiting somewhat the effectiveness of the control task.

On this occasion, I request that the party committee echelon and the administration at all levels coordinate closely with the control sector to ensure the application of the principle for unified centralization of all operations of the control sector so as to bring into full play the strength of the entire political system at every level and in every locality, mobilize large numbers of people to participate in the struggle to oppose and prevent crimes, firmly maintain discipline, and stabilize the socioeconomic situation.

Dear Comrades, the control sector's 1990 duty is very heavy yet very glorious. You must carry out renovation and strive to build a contingent of strong and wholesome control cadres who possess good ethics and qualities, high militant spirit, good professional skills, and good bearing among the people and grass-roots level installations.

You, Comrades, should always remember respected and beloved President Ho's teachings and act accordingly. Control cadres must be just, honest, objective, careful, and modest. On the occasion of the New Year, I cordially wish the contingent of controllers and all cadres and workers of the control sector much health and happiness. I wish you positive renovation and many new achievements in your work. I wish the control sector successful fulfillment of its 1990 work program.

Vo Chi Cong Greets Supreme Court Conference

BK1501110190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] As reported earlier, from 9 to 11 January 1990 the People's Supreme Court held a conference in Ho Chi Minh City to recapitulate its 1989 activities and to set forth the guidelines and tasks for 1990. Chairman of the State Council Vo Chi Cong sent a letter to the conference.

After welcoming and praising last year's efforts and operating results of the judiciary, and after reminding the judiciary of the need to resolutely overcome some shortcomings and weaknesses, Chairman Vo Chi Cong's letter continued: Dear comrades, the socioeconomic tasks of our country in 1990 are very heavy. Our party, state, and people should accelerate renovation even more vigorously, and strive to create new and even firmer changes in order to gradually stabilize the socioeconomic life and make favorable conditions for entering the 1991-95 5-year plan.

One of the country's socioeconomic tasks specified in the National Assembly's resolution is to continually implement the eighth National Assembly's fourth session resolution on the assurance of security, order, and public safety—to implement continuously and uniformly all measures to combine the strength of functional agencies with that of mass movements in order to educate the people; prevent, struggle against, and severely punish all crimes; and to constantly and firmly maintain security, order, and public safety. This is an extremely important task that must be thoroughly understood and implemented by the judiciary in its performance in 1990. I hope that in the new year, the entire judiciary will develop the achievements of its duties, overcome all difficulties, remedy all shortcomings and weaknesses, vigorously renovate its activities, and build a contingent of wholesome and healthy cadres who have revolutionary qualities and professional competence.

Together with the various interior affairs agencies and other state agencies and social organizations, the judiciary should struggle to oppose and prevent crimes effectively, strengthen the socialist legal system, positively contribute to firmly maintaining social discipline and order, and remain worthy of the lofty title of an agency that defends law and justice of the socialist regime.

TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Reviewed

BK1601134690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 8 Jan 90

[Summary] TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN starts its January 1990 issue with an article entitled "The Military Thinking of Cadres in Charge of Civilian Sectors" by Nguyen Thanh Binh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. The article notes "the urgent need to further improve the military knowledge and thinking of cadres in charge of civilian sectors so as to help with both national defense and socioeconomic and cultural development." After evaluating the military knowledge and thinking of cadres in charge of civilian sectors, the author points out the key tasks that need to be carried out in order to help these cadres improve their knowledge and keep pace with the current renovation undertaking in the country.

Next, the journal features Colonel Nguyen Van Duc's article "Peace, War, and Revolution." The article deals with current issues related to the development of the era's new thinking, forms of struggle, and strategies and tactics being adopted by the proletarian revolution. After analyzing various aspects of the worldwide tendency to resolve differences through compromise and dialogue rather than confrontation, the author deals with different ways to develop this tendency in order to "correctly respond to the need to secure peace and intensify the revolutionary struggle, thus getting oneself ready to cope with all circumstances, including war."

The article stresses that since compromise and dialogue are part of a fierce, complicated struggle that does not exclude the possibility of regional armed conflicts, "the world nations should, while making efforts to reach political solutions to end regional armed conflicts, heighten vigilance and consolidate national defense potentials."

Also in the January 1990 issue, the journal carries an article by Le Chi entitled "Some More Thoughts on the Leadership Mechanism and Contents of Military Maneuvers Following a National Defense Exercise in Thai Binh." The article deals with the need to help localities fully develop their right of mastery and their active role so as to apply more effectively the mechanism of leadership by the party, management by the administration, counsel by military organs, and uniform command over the armed forces by military leaders. The article also deals with the various issues that need to be studied more thoroughly in order to guarantee conditions for the localities to cope with unexpected problems arising from their specific circumstances, and to meet the Defense Ministry's training requirements.

This is followed by Major Dang Dinh Khoa's article "Consolidating the Training and Improvement of the Contingent of Instructors for Military Schools" and Candidate Doctor Colonel Le Kha Tho's article "Concerning the Efficiency of the Contingent of Scientific and Technical Cadres in the Armed Forces."

In this issue, the journal devotes much space to publishing statements at the scientific conference on a number of issues concerning theories on military science organized by the journal itself in November 1989. These include: "Concerning our Army's Scientific Research Aimed at Fulfilling the Task of Building and Defending the Socialist Fatherland" by Candidate Doctor Lieutenant General Hoang Phuong, Institute of Military History; "Training, Improvement, and Work Assignment for Cadres in Charge of Military Science in the New Stage" by Lieutenant General Nguyen Trong Hop, General Political Department; "Military Organization in Peacetime" by Candidate Doctor of Philosophy Colonel Le Bang and Lieutenant Colonel Bui Tran Mo; "The Urgent Problems Posed by the Navy's Military Science" by Candidate Doctor of Military Science Navy Lieutenant Colonel Chu Minh Toa; "Guaranteeing Conditions for Troop Feeding, a Current Issue of Military Science" by Lieutenant Colonel Bui Xuan Tien, General Logistics Department; "Facts About and Causes of the Development of Military Science at Present" by Colonel Phan Minh Thao, Institute of Military History; and "The Effect of Scientific-Technological Achievements on Military Affairs" by Colonel La Doan Loan, the General Staff.

In the "Exchange of Opinion about the Efficiency of the Party-Building Task and Political Indoctrination in the Armed Forces" section, the journal introduces the viewpoints of Candidate Doctor of Philosophy Lieutenant Colonel Ho Ngoc Hai, Institute of Military Science.

Found in the "Military Issues in Foreign Countries" section is Hoang Chuong's article entitled "The African Military Circles and the Issue of National Defense" and Pham Nguyen's article entitled "France's Combined Efforts To Boost National Defense and Security in the Sea Areas."

Le Duc Anh's Military Thinking Book Introduced

BK1201095590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 7 Jan 90

[Introduction by Le Ngoc Khue to General Le Duc Anh's book entitled: "Renovate Military Thinking; Persistently Observe and Creatively Apply the Party's Military Line"]

[Text] The renovation drive launched in our country in accordance with the spirit of the Sixth Party Congress resolution is being deployed deeply and broadly to all areas of social life. The question of renovation of military thinking in the Army and national defense is raised under the comprehensive renovation drive of our party and people. In the past three years, some important initial results have been achieved in renovating the military field. Since the conclusion of the Sixth Party Congress, Comrade Le Duc Anh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and defense minister, has written many addresses and essays profoundly analyzing the fundamental viewpoints and ideologies of our party concerning the building of an all-people national defense and armed forces, the duty of defending the country, and the international duty of our Army in the new situation.

On the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army [VPA], 22 December 1944-89, the QUAN DOI NHAN DAN publishing house published the book entitled "Renovate Military Thinking; Persistently Observe and Creatively Apply the Party's Military Line" which is composed of some selected addresses and essays written by the comrade minister in the past.

The author focusses on profoundly reflecting our party's viewpoints on renovation in the Army and on national defense, and on the creative application of the party's military line during the stage of socialist revolution. Regarding renovation in the military domain in accordance with the spirit of the Sixth Party Congress resolution, the author clearly specifies: To renovate military thinking is to talk about the renovation of reflection and the way of thinking in order to realize more profoundly the party's military line; to correctly assess the objective situation as well as our own and our enemies' situation; to develop our strong points; to overcome our shortcomings; and to correctly solve all military problems including strategic ones in accordance with the law of objectivity and in line with the new situation of the country and the world.

Renovating military thinking does not mean negating the achievements made in military theories, the general laws of military operations, war and armed struggle, and the correctly prescribed military line. On the contrary, to renovate military thinking is mainly to inherit, supplement, and develop achievements; to correct mistakes and shortcomings; to change what is no longer suitable; and to persistently implement and concretize the party's military line as clearly indicated by the Sixth Party Congress. This means to firmly grasp and creatively apply the military line in conformity with the new conditions and circumstances of the national defense duty and in close connection with the task of national construction.

The author analyzed: When determining the task of national defense as a strategic task of the socialist revolution in our country, along with the task of national construction, our party did not make a subjective deduction but proceeded from objective facts and from a general analysis of the world and region, and from the enemy's real schemes and acts. Our party also proceeded from the general law of the socialist revolution and the laws of both national defense and national defense in the history of the Vietnamese nation's survival and development.

The all-people national defense, the people countrywide fighting the enemy, and the use of the people's Armed Forces as a core constitute the fundamental ideology of our party's military line. All the people and troops build and defend the country. To renovate military thinking is to correctly grasp this basic guideline.

The author continues: Building an ever firmer and stronger all-people national defense and firmly defending the socialist fatherland in all circumstances are the duty of all party members, people, troops, and the entire proletarian dictatorship system.

The scope of building an all-people national defense is very broad, ranging from educating the people to have a sense of national defense to combining the economy with national defense, building the latent military potential, establishing battle plans, implementing the Army's rear policy, and so on. All these involve the leadership function of party organizations from the central down to the grass-roots levels, the performances of many sectors in the state machinery, and the participation of a large number of people. They are not solely the work of the Ministry of National Defense, the Army, and military agencies alone.

Although building a firm and strong all-people national defense is a long-range undertaking, we must start right now and do it step-by-step. To ensure quick progress for the tasks of building and consolidating national defense so as to meet the new requirements and new duties, it is necessary for us to develop the efficiency of the party's mechanism of leadership over the cause of national defense and the building of the Army.

A firm and strong all-people national defense must necessarily possess a core, that is the people's armed forces, containing three categories of troops—the regular forces, the regional forces, and the militia and self-defense forces. Since each category of troops has its own strategic role, we should pay attention to building up all three categories. While paying attention to building the people's Army, we must also attentively build up the militia and self-defense forces.

Wishing to help everyone understand thoroughly the party's military line in the stage of socialist revolution and our party's viewpoints on renovation in the military and national defense domains, the QUAN DOI NHAN DAN publishing house solemnly introduces the book entitled, "Renovate Military Thinking, Persistently Observe and Creatively Apply the Party's Military Line" by General Le Duc Anh.